

# Battle Angel Alita

# KILLING ANGEL

TM



VIZ GRAPHIC NOVEL

# KILLING ANGEL

A BATTLE ANGEL ALITA™ GRAPHIC NOVEL



STORY AND ART BY

**YUKITO KISHIRO**



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## **KILLING ANGEL**

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This volume contains **BATTLE ANGEL ALITA PART THREE**  
issues #1 through #5 in their entirety.

STORY AND ART BY YUKITO KISHIRO

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# KILLING ANGEL

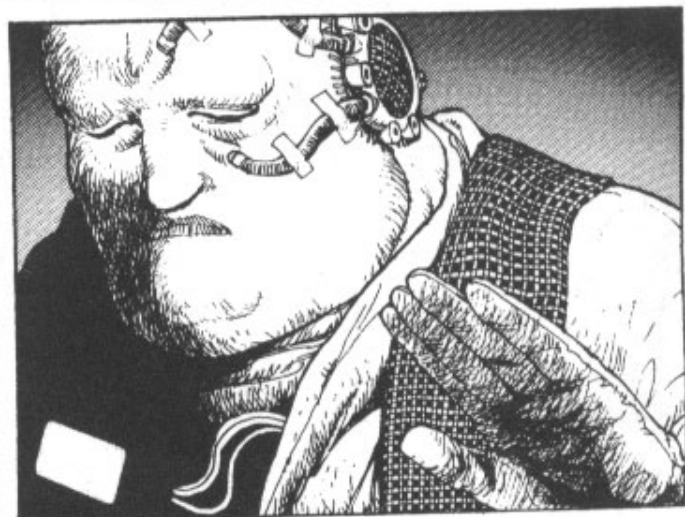
Race 1: Discovery



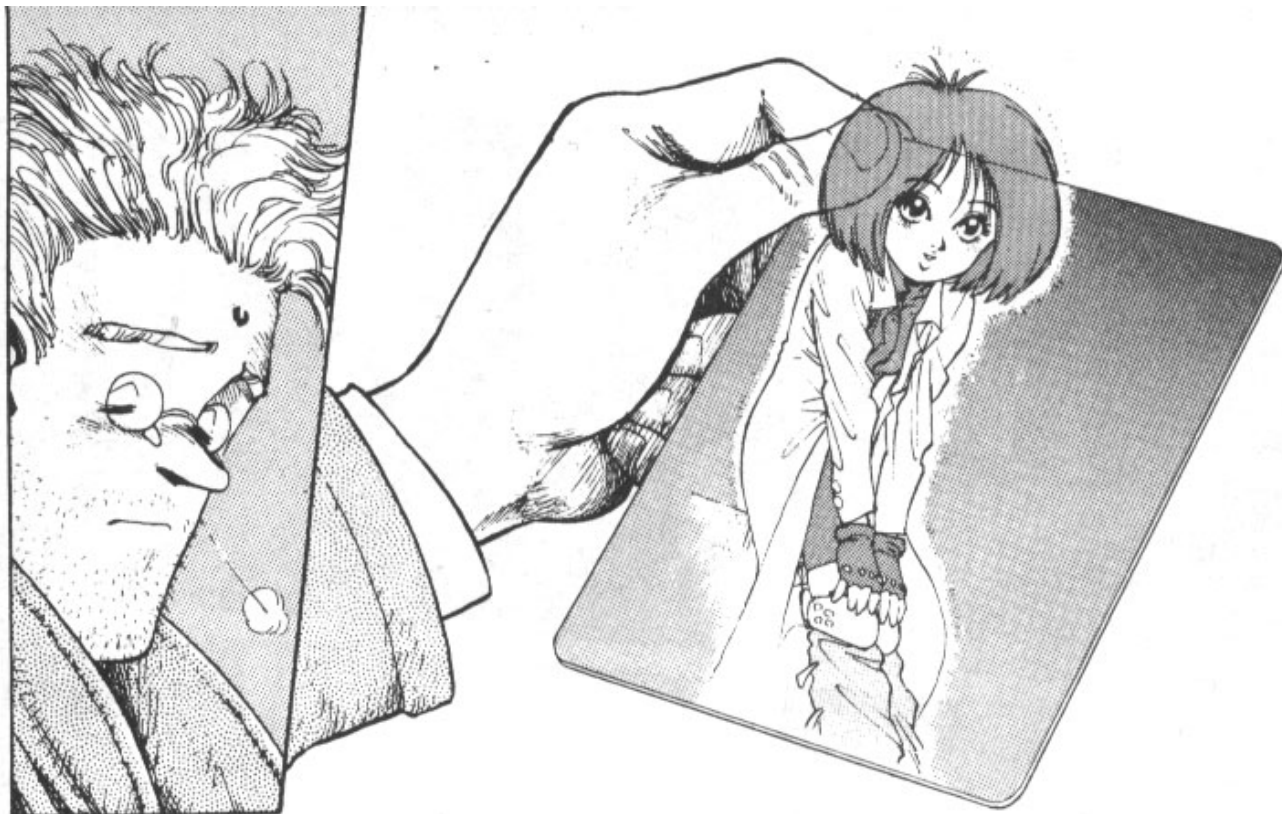


THE SCRAP YARD,  
WESTERN REGION...









...LOSING  
HUGO REALLY  
DID A  
NUMBER  
ON HER--

HALLUCINATE  
DESSECRATE  
ELEVATE TRYING TO HATE  
SUFFOCATE ON YOUR  
EDGE SERRATE AB  
LIBERATE  
LIBERATE

--ONE DAY  
ALITA JUST  
WALKED AWAY  
FROM  
EVERYTHING.  
SHE DIDN'T  
COME BACK.

I'VE SEARCHED  
EVERYWHERE  
FOR HER--  
ALL THE WAY  
TO THE  
WESTERN  
REGION...

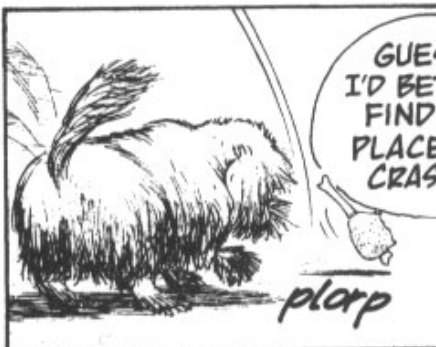
CHOMP

I GUESS  
UNTIL I FIND  
ALITA, MY  
ROUTINES  
ARE ON  
HOLD-- NO  
MORE "DOC"  
IDO... NO  
MORE  
HUNTER-  
WARRIOR  
GIGS.

WHAT IF I  
DON'T FIND  
HER FOR  
YEARS...?  
WITHOUT  
ALITA...



SNURF  
SNURF

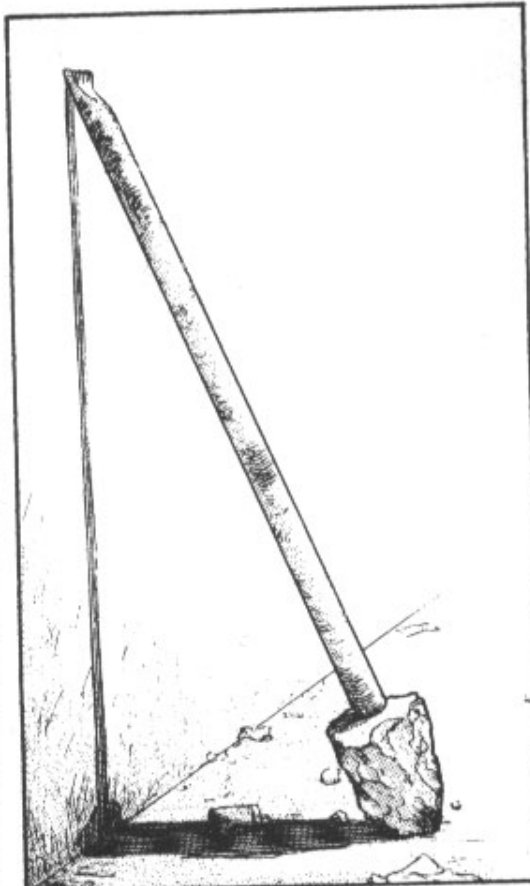


GUESS  
I'D BETTER  
FIND A  
PLACE TO  
CRASH...

plorp

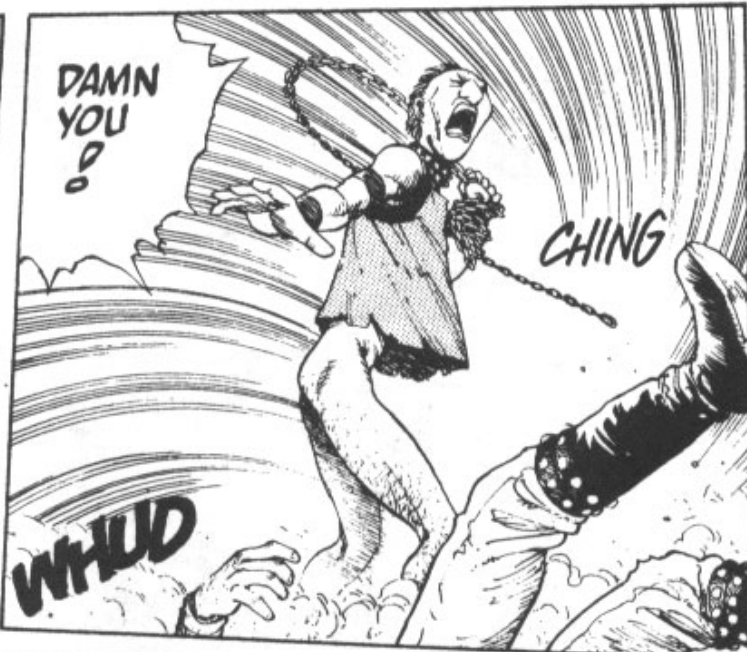
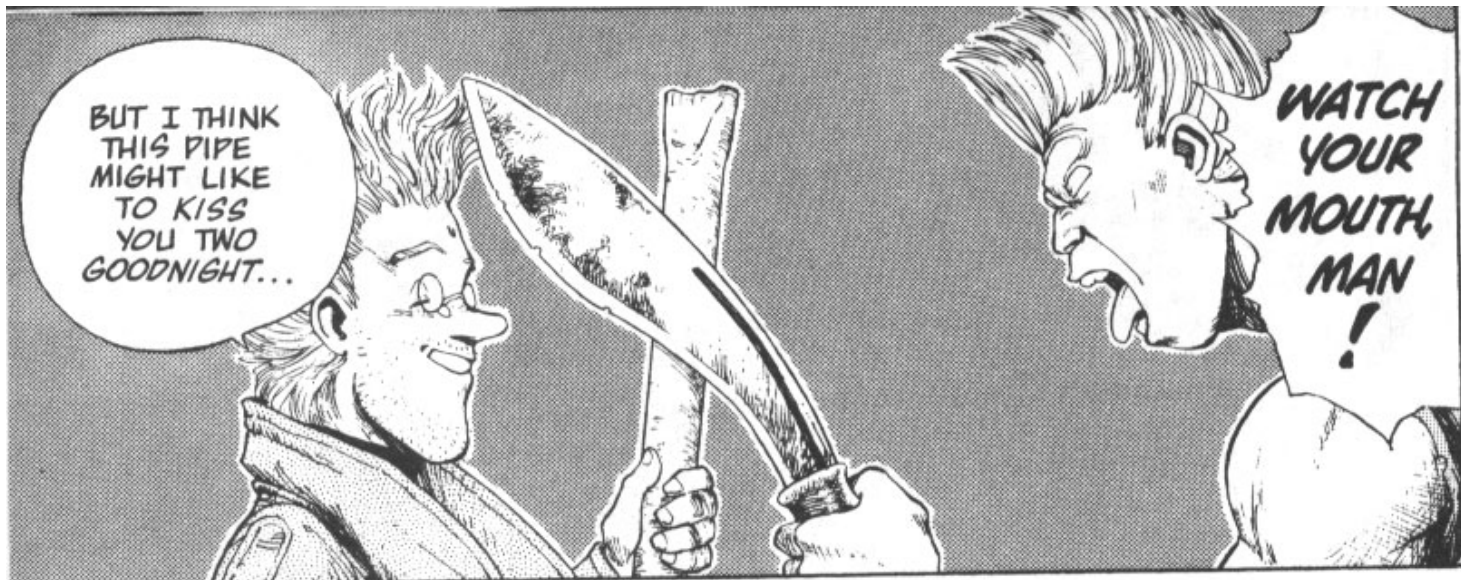


...WITHOUT  
ALITA, THESE  
STREETS WILL  
BE MY ONLY  
FRIEND...













PUNK KIDS...  
NO MATCH  
FOR A MAN  
USED TO  
DEALING  
WITH CYBER-  
ENHANCED  
MURDERERS!





"SHUMIRA."  
THAT WAS  
HER NAME.  
TOO BAD I  
TOLD HER  
MINE...

SHUMIRA  
REALLY  
APPRECIATES  
WHAT  
IDO DID.

SHUMIRA  
REALLY,  
REALLY  
WANTS TO  
THANK  
IDO--  
OKAY?



IDO HAS NO  
PLACE TO  
STAY? THEN  
STAY AT  
SHUMIRA'S PLACE!  
SHUMIRA  
WILL MAKE  
IDO DINNER!

AFTER ALL  
SHE'S BEEN  
THROUGH,  
THIS  
SHUMIRA  
SEEMS  
OVERLY  
CARELESS...



I'M SUCH  
A STOIC  
AT TIMES  
LIKE THIS.

BY THE  
WAY...



...I'M  
LOOKING  
FOR  
SOMEONE...



NO???

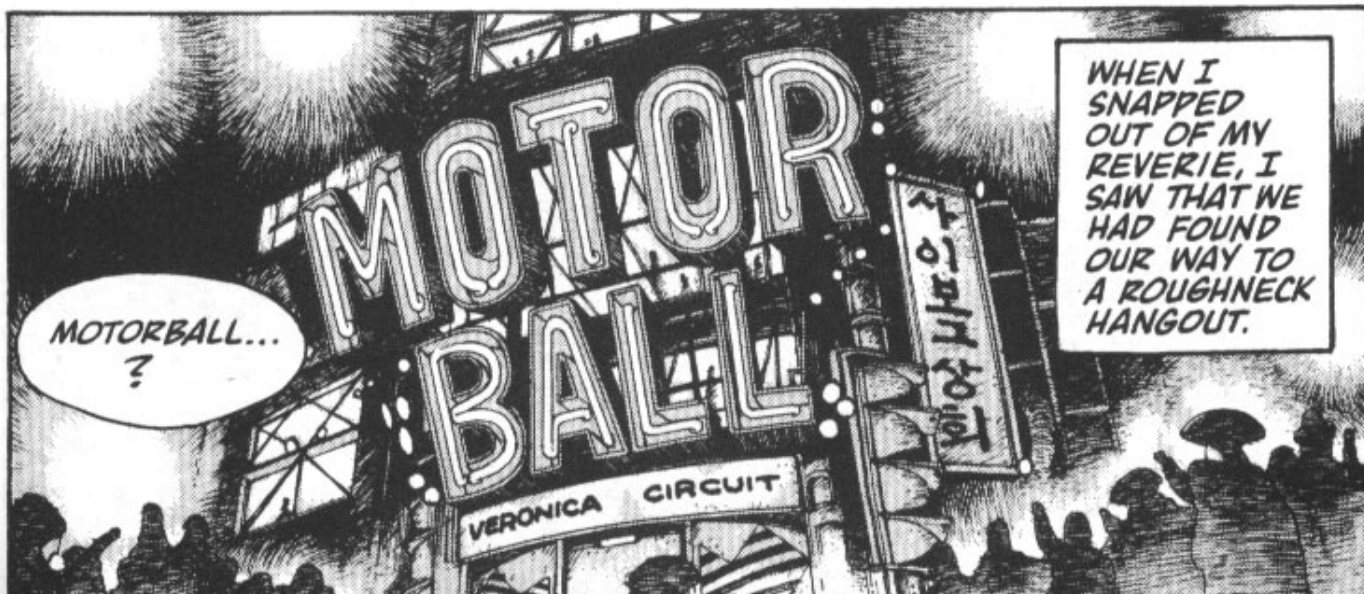
!





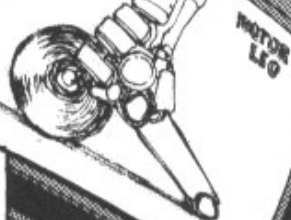
SHUMIRA GRABBED  
MY ARM, AND AS WE  
WOUND THROUGH THE  
WESTERN ZONE,  
I FOUND MYSELF LOST  
IN CONTEMPLATION.

"WHAT IS  
ALITA TO ME,  
REALLY!?"



I'VE HEARD  
OF THIS  
BEFORE... A  
COMBAT-  
ORIENTED  
RACETRACK  
IN THE  
WESTERN  
REGION...

...WHERE  
CYBORG  
CIRCUIT-RIDERS  
COMPETE  
TO CONTROL  
THE BALL.



ONE  
TICKET  
FOR NO.  
57!



HERE'S A  
TICKET  
FOR  
CHANNEL  
57...

...IDO  
GO  
WATCH  
THIS!  
OKAY?

HUH  
?

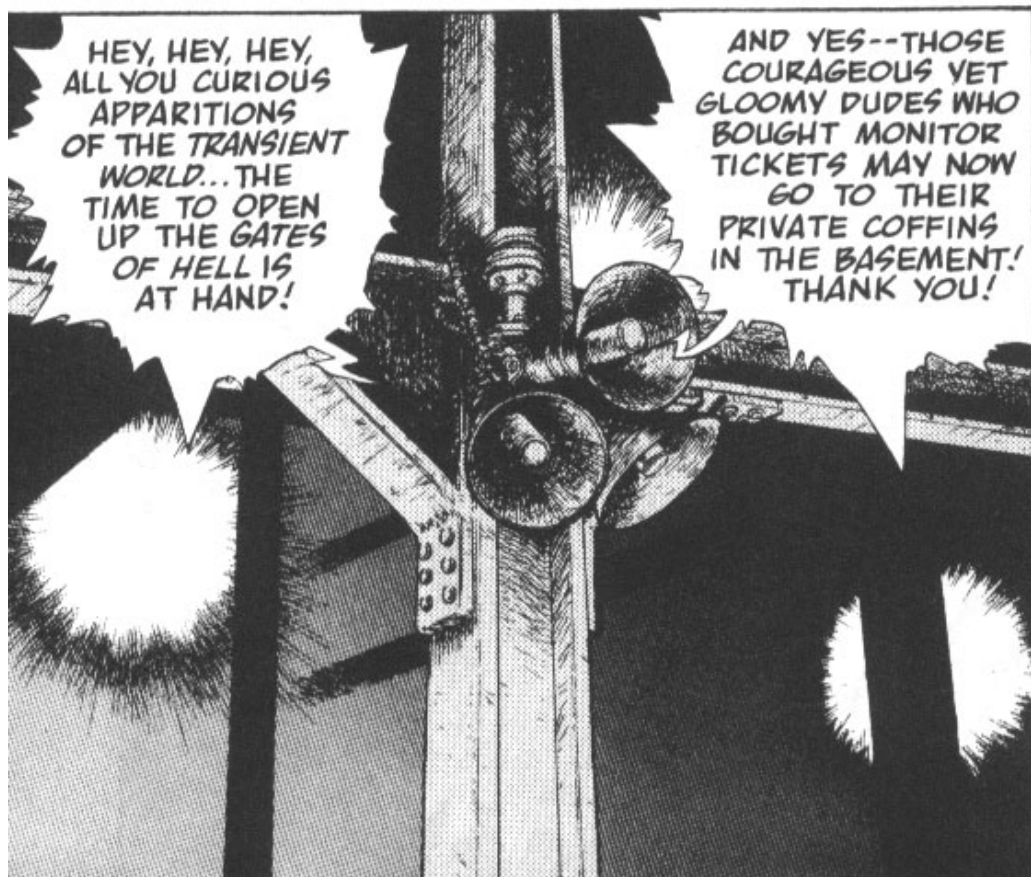


HEY, HEY, HEY,  
ALL YOU CURIOUS  
APPARITIONS  
OF THE TRANSIENT  
WORLD... THE  
TIME TO OPEN  
UP THE GATES  
OF HELL IS  
AT HAND!

AND YES--THOSE  
COURAGEOUS YET  
GLOOMY DUDES WHO  
BOUGHT MONITOR  
TICKETS MAY NOW  
GO TO THEIR  
PRIVATE COFFINS  
IN THE BASEMENT!  
THANK YOU!

HUH  
?

WHERE'D  
YOU  
GO,  
SHUMIRA  
!?

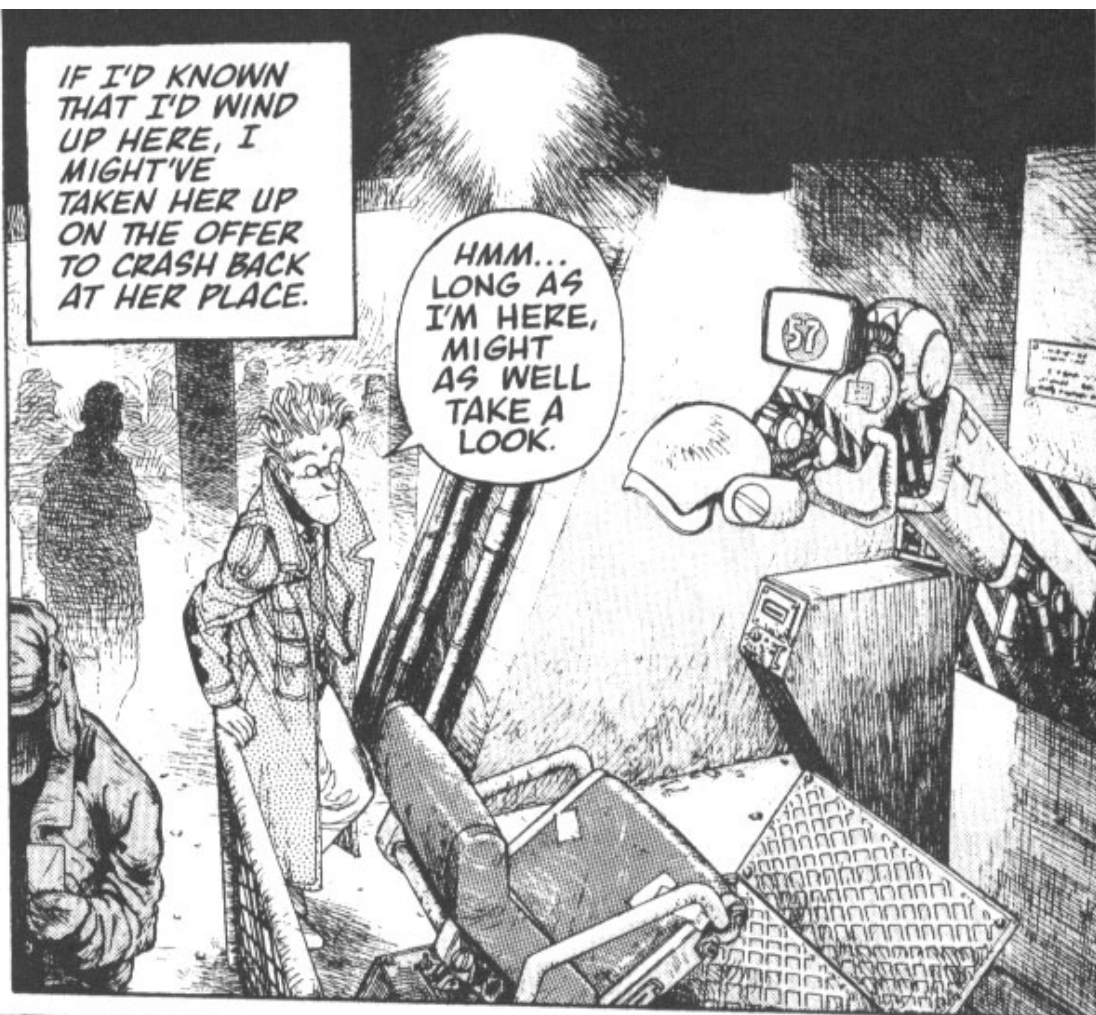






I DON'T GET IT...

THIS KIND OF MOB-RULE CHAOS ISN'T MY STYLE AT ALL.



IF I'D KNOWN THAT I'D WIND UP HERE, I MIGHT'VE TAKEN HER UP ON THE OFFER TO CRASH BACK AT HER PLACE.

HMM... LONG AS I'M HERE, MIGHT AS WELL TAKE A LOOK.



WELCOME TO THE CHANNEL 57 SURROGATE, "VALDICCI"!

VIA THE SENSORY INPUT OF YOUR CHOSEN SURROGATE, YOU WILL NOW EXPERIENCE IN REAL-TIME THE ULTIMATE THRILL OF... MOTORBALL!

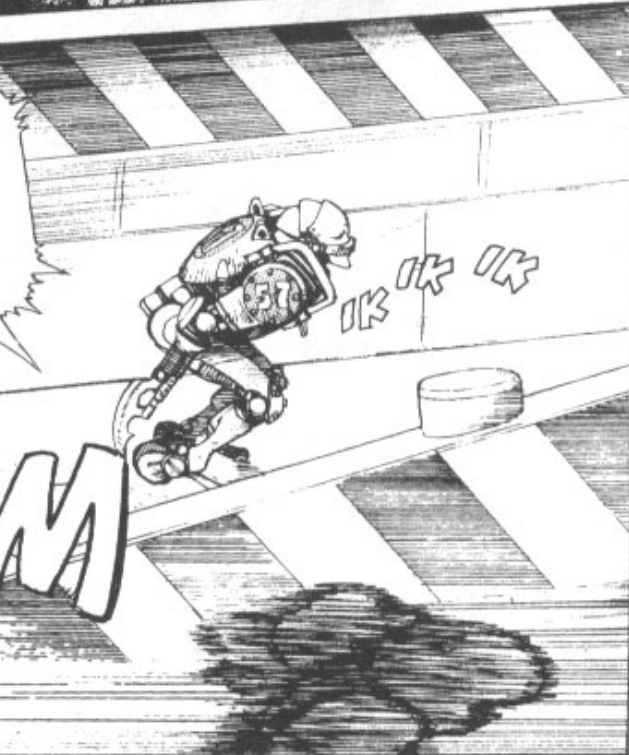


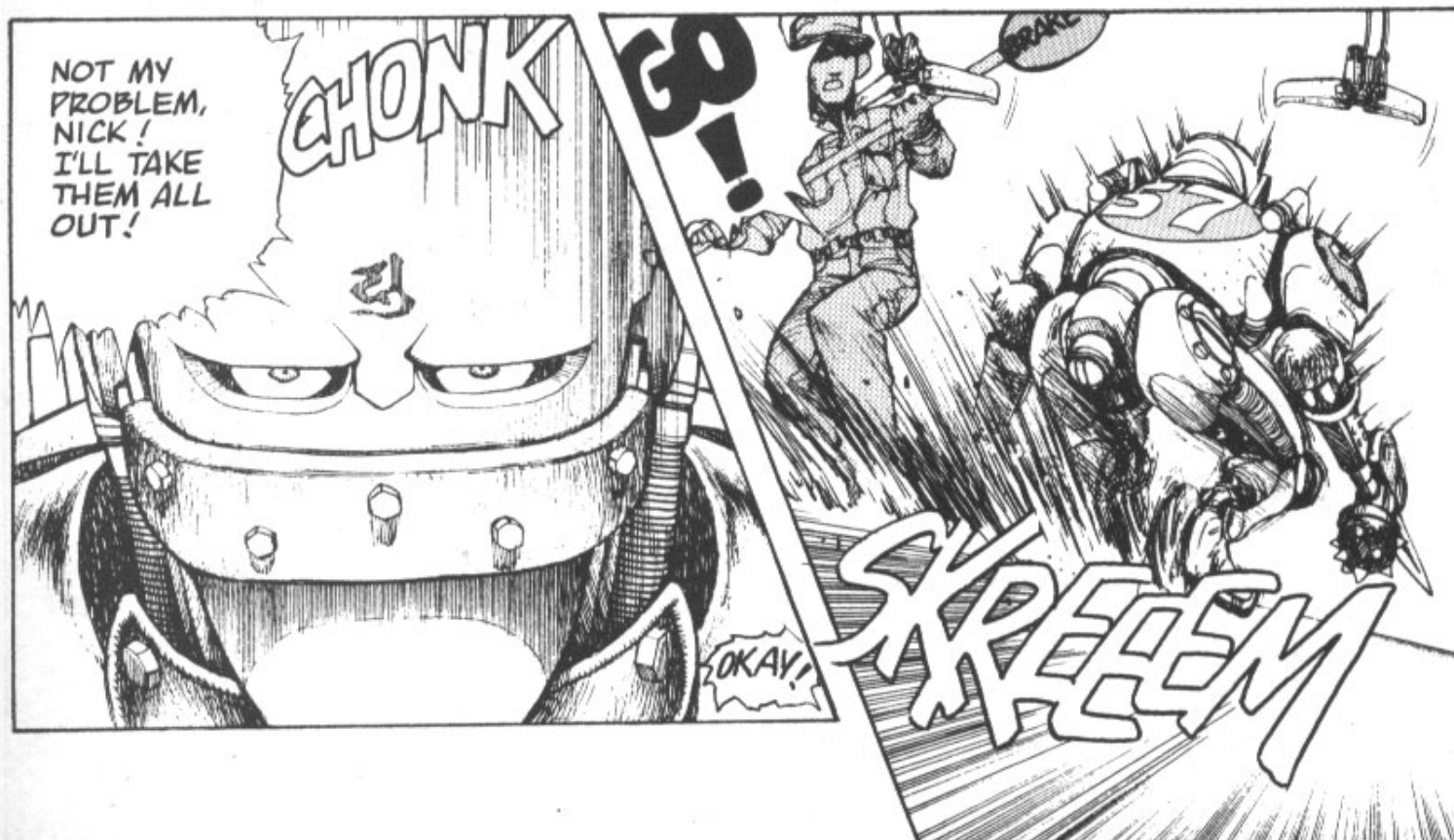
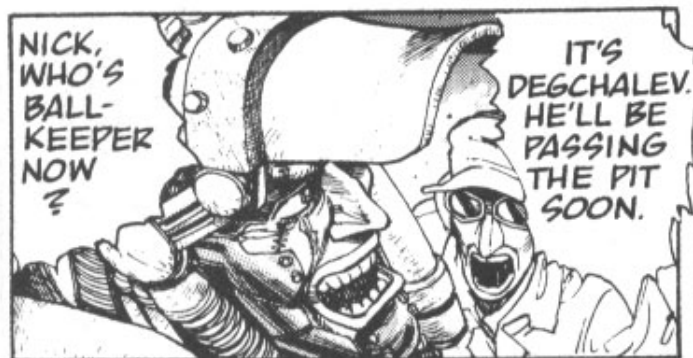
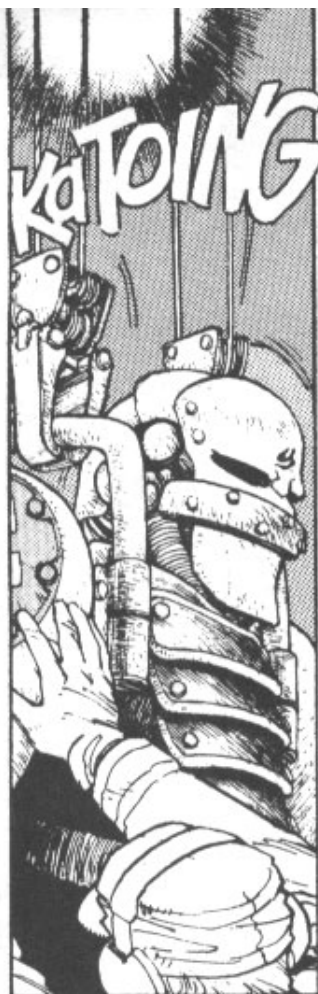




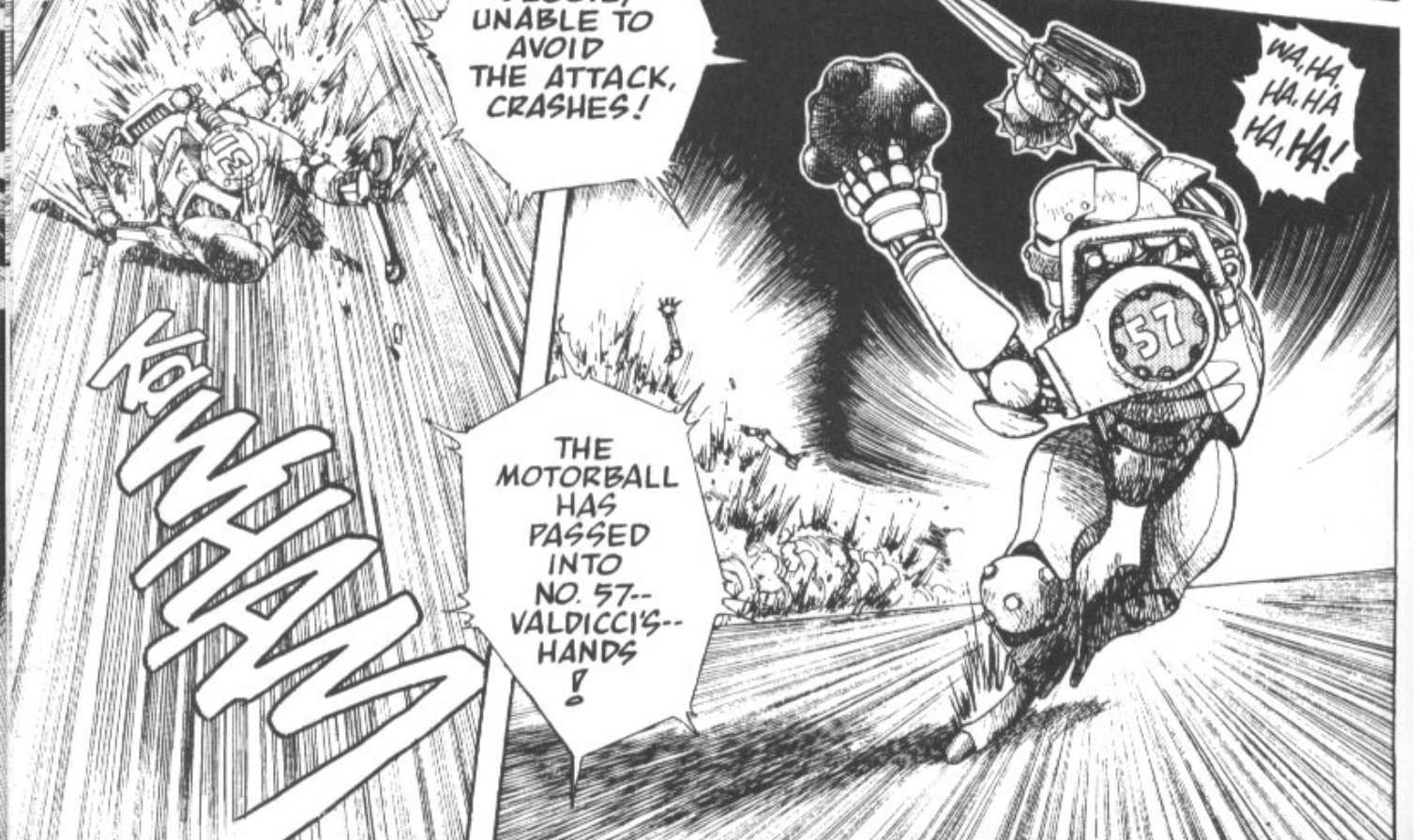
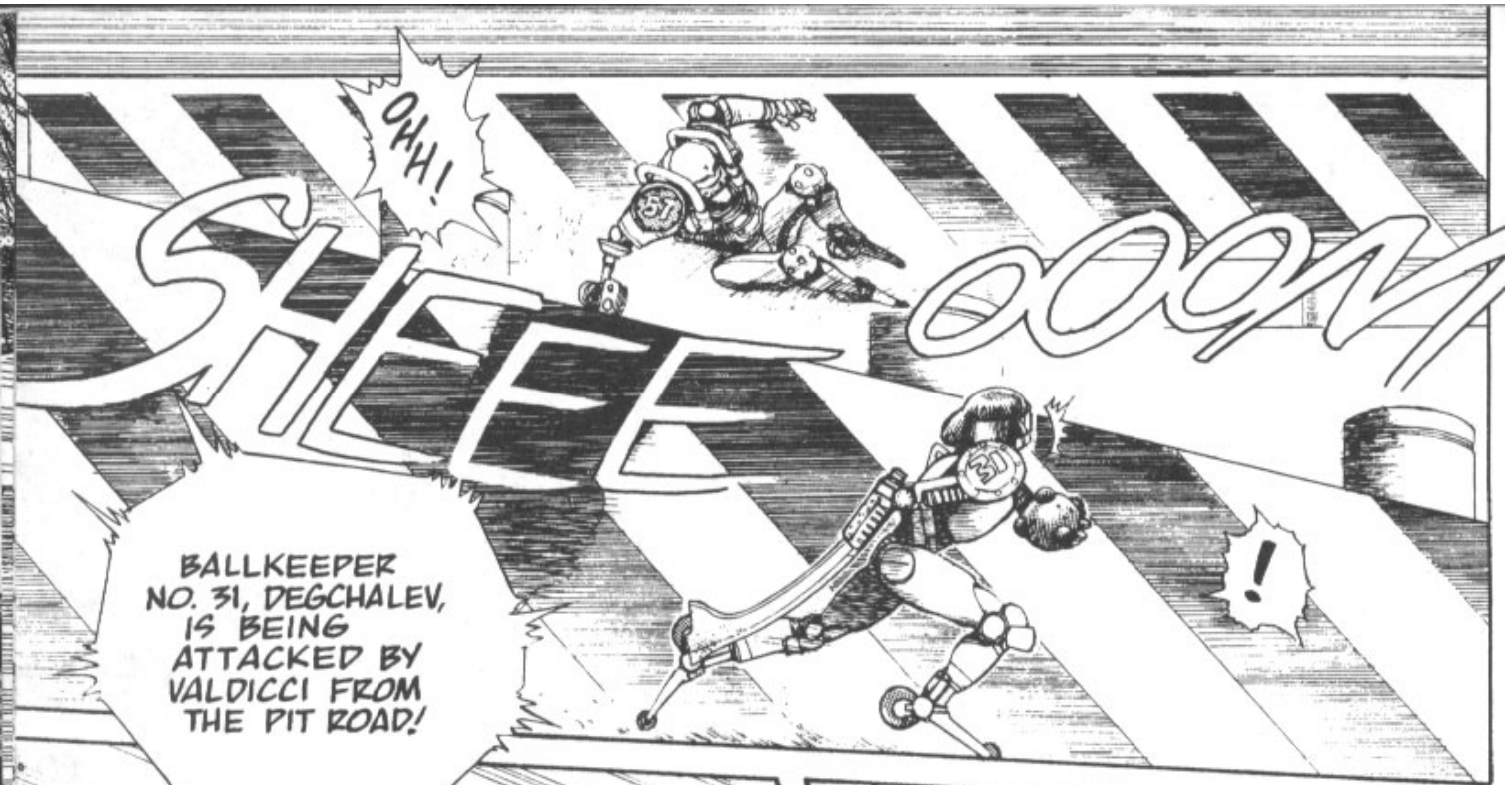
IT'S VALDICCI,  
OUR VETERAN  
NO. 57! HE  
SEEMS TO BE  
PULLING INTO  
A PIT-STOP WITH  
MECHANICAL  
PROBLEMS!

VROOM









YEE-HA!

NO ONE CAN CATCH UP TO VALDY!  
HE'S ON HIS FINAL LAP!  
WILL HE BE THE VICTOR!?

YEE-HA!

NO ONE CAN CATCH UP TO VALDY!  
HE'S ON HIS FINAL LAP!  
WILL HE BE THE VICTOR!?

YEE-HA!

NO ONE CAN CATCH UP TO VALDY!  
HE'S ON HIS FINAL LAP!  
WILL HE BE THE VICTOR!?

VALDYS IN THE HOME-STRETCH!

BUT WAIT-- THERE'S A PLAYER STOPPED, WAITING FOR HIM AT THE GOAL LINE!

VALDYS IN THE HOME-STRETCH!

BUT WAIT-- THERE'S A PLAYER STOPPED, WAITING FOR HIM AT THE GOAL LINE!

VALDYS IN THE HOME-STRETCH!

BUT WAIT-- THERE'S A PLAYER STOPPED, WAITING FOR HIM AT THE GOAL LINE!

VRR RRRWWWW

IT'S THE KILLING ANGEL, WHO SUDDENLY APPEARED ON THE CIRCUIT TWO WEEKS AGO...

...NO. 99!

VRR RRRWWWW

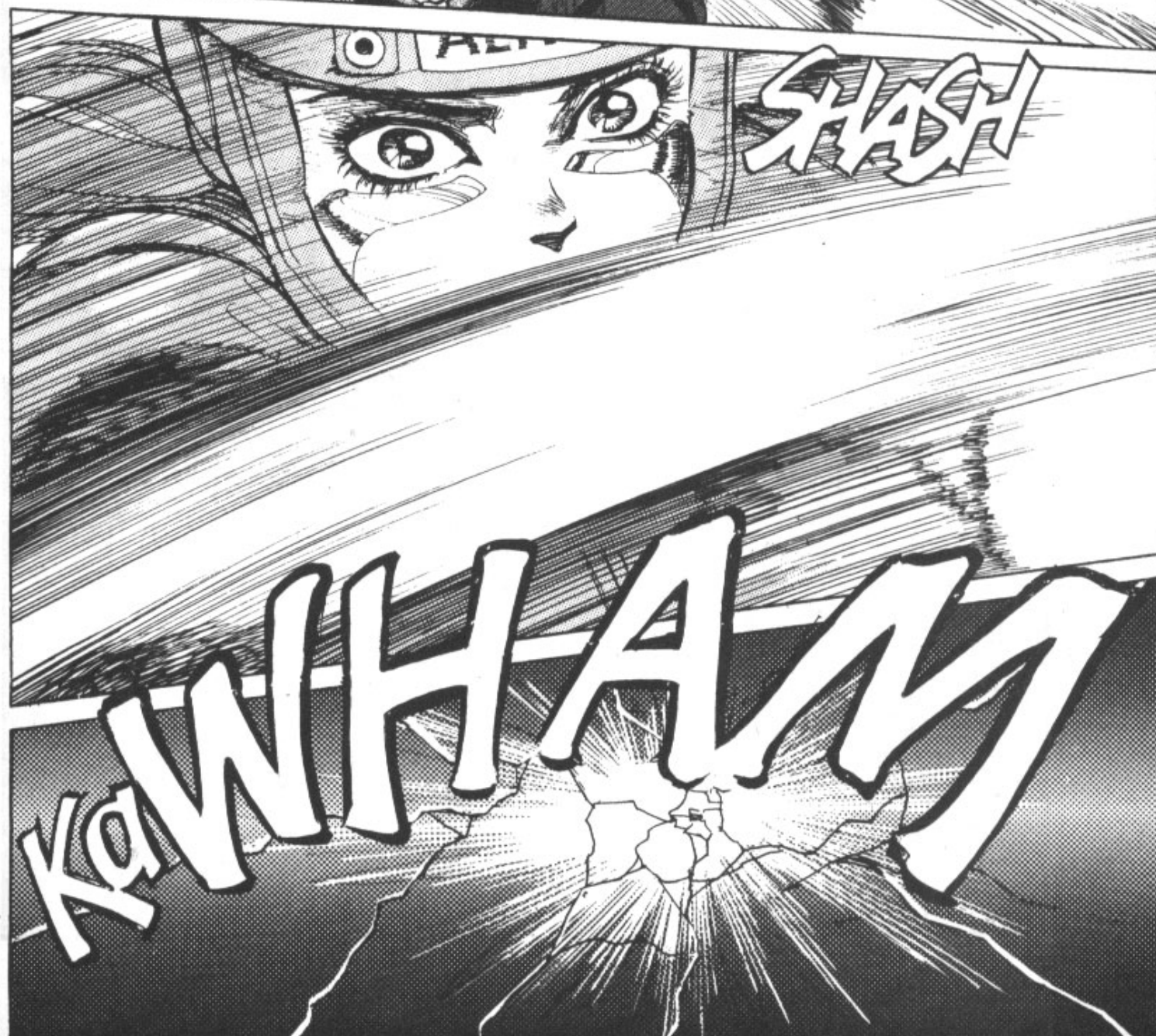
IT'S THE KILLING ANGEL, WHO SUDDENLY APPEARED ON THE CIRCUIT TWO WEEKS AGO...

...NO. 99!



AAA-  
LEEE-  
TAAAAAH!









WITH THE  
BALL RAISED  
HIGH, SHE  
WALKS ACROSS  
THE FINISH  
LINE! TALK  
ABOUT NERVE...!

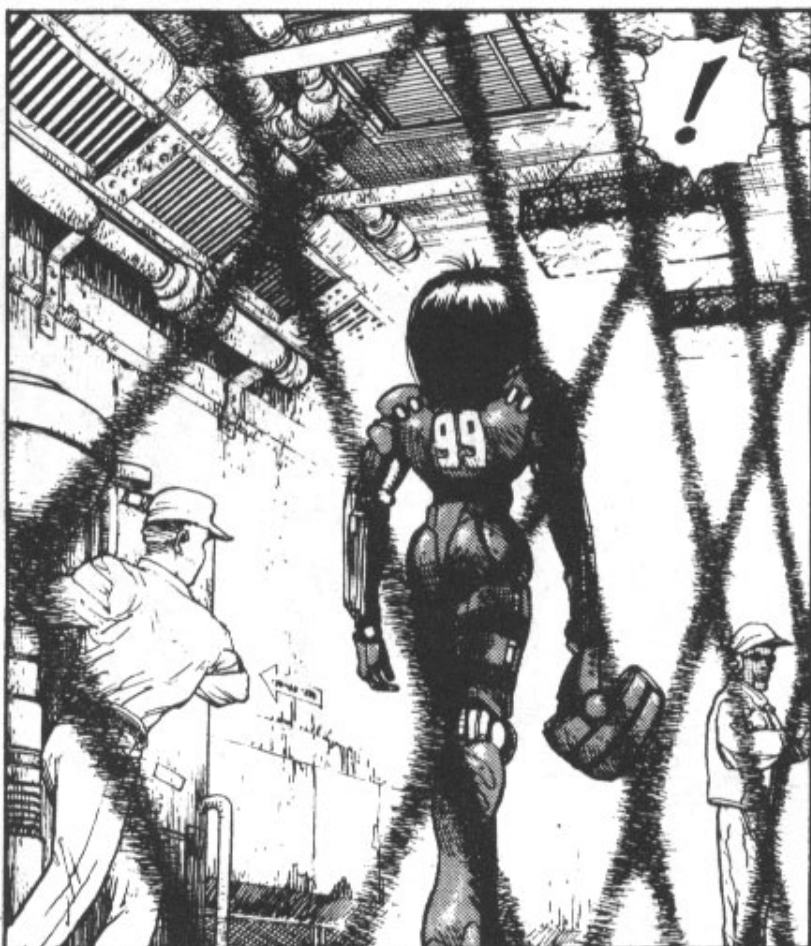
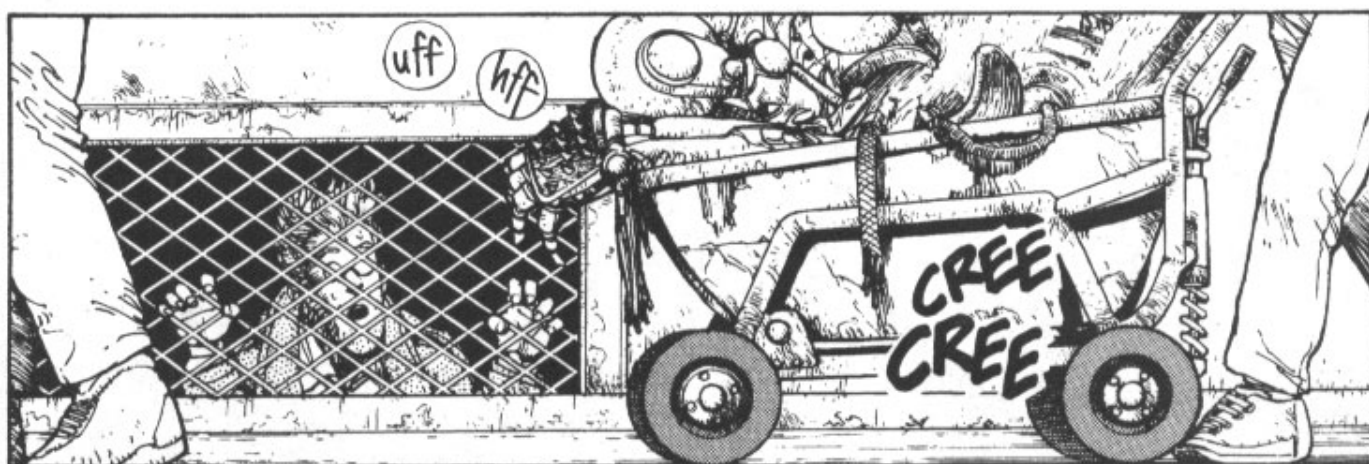


IT'S THE  
FOURTH WIN  
FOR NO. 99,  
ALITA, SINCE  
HER STUNNING  
DEBUT!



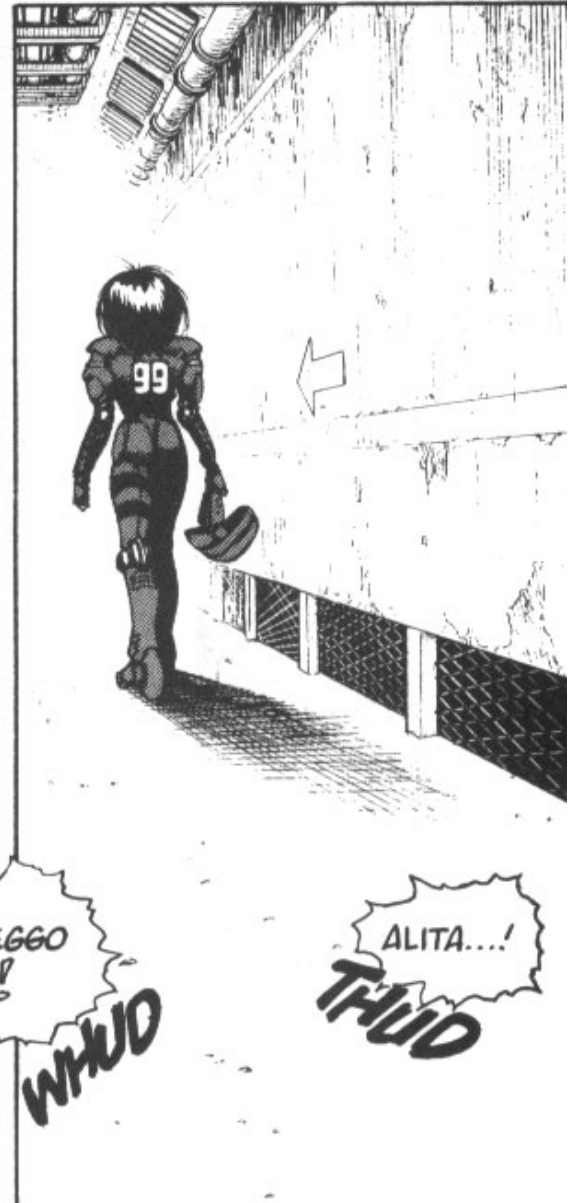
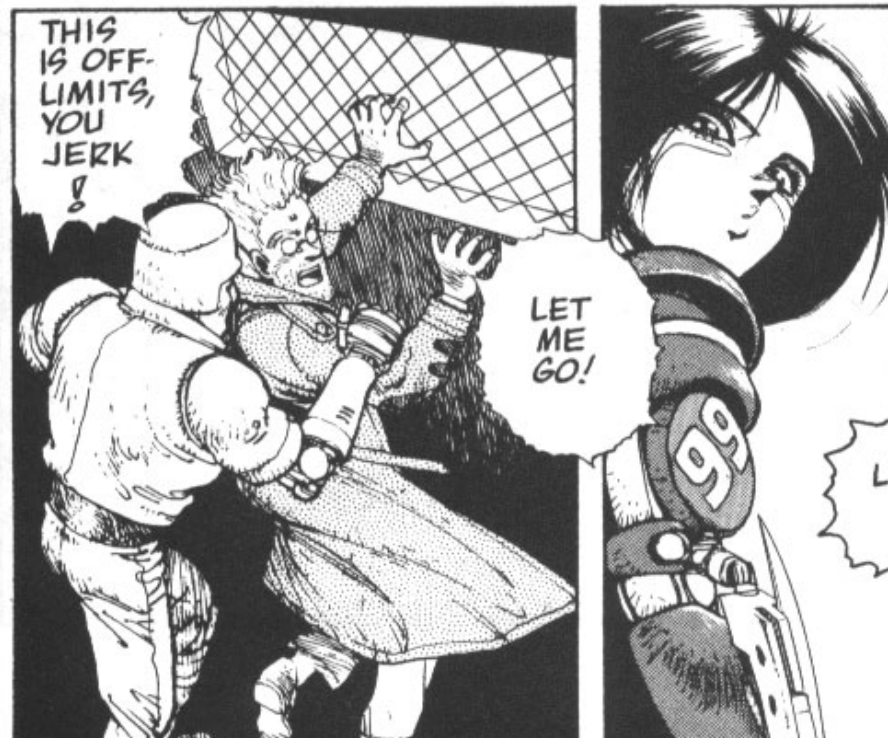
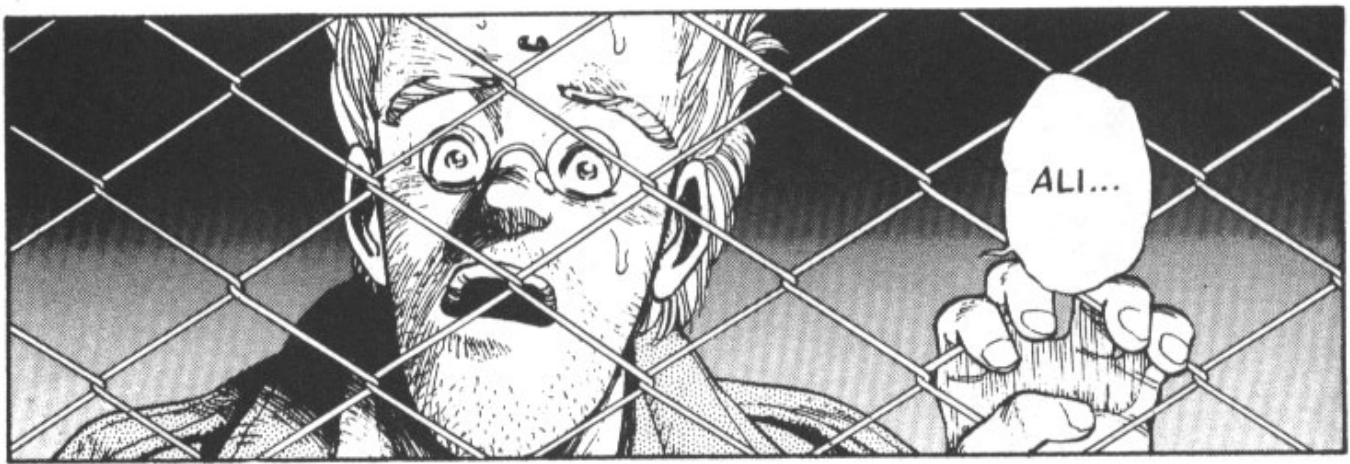




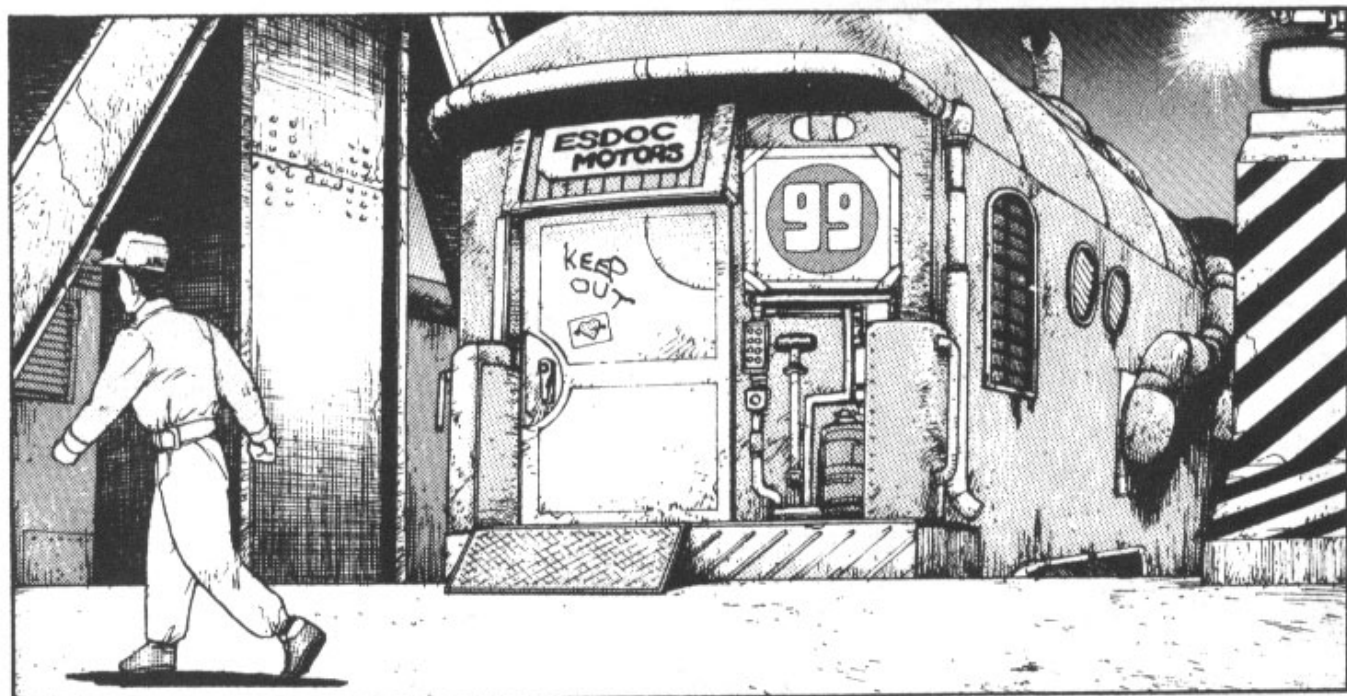
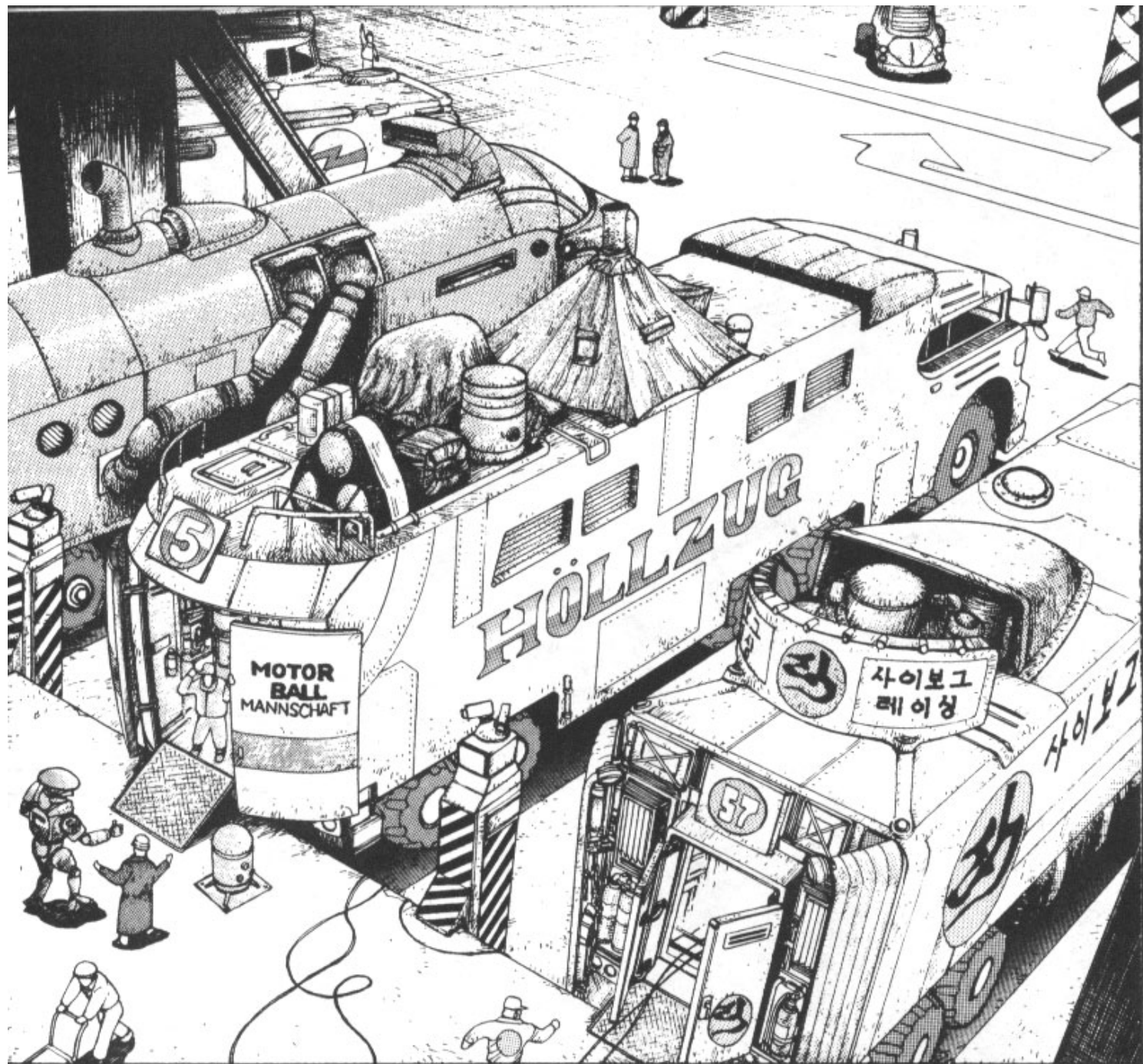


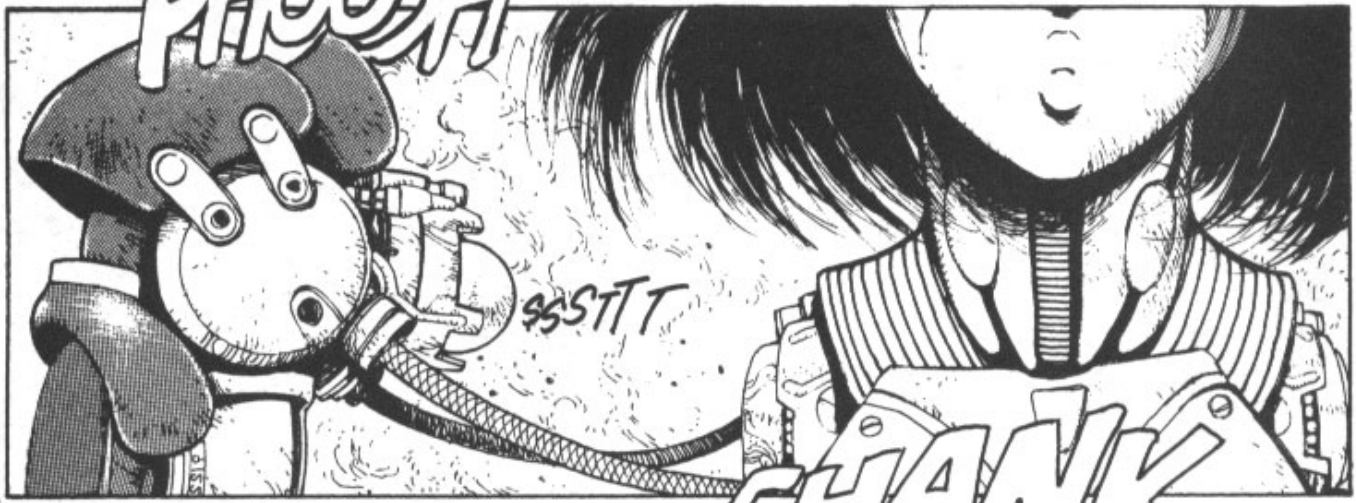




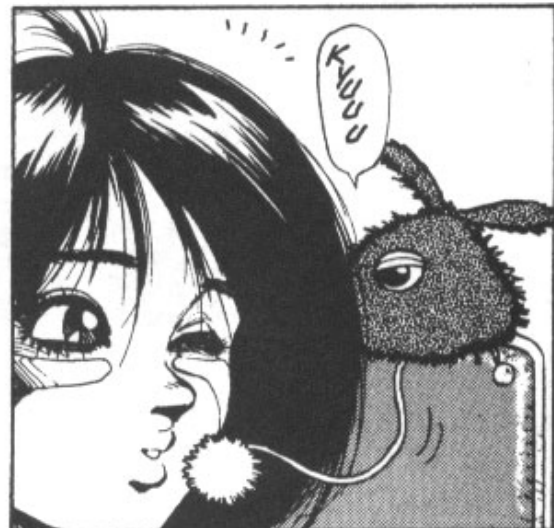
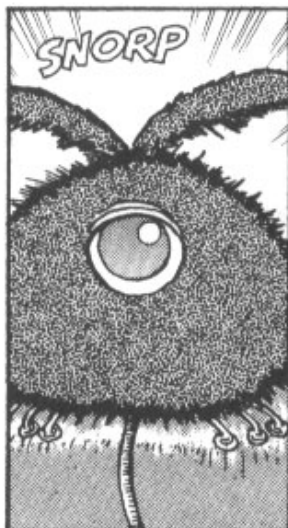
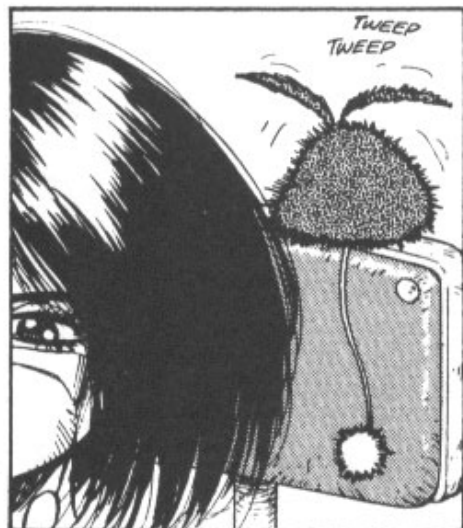
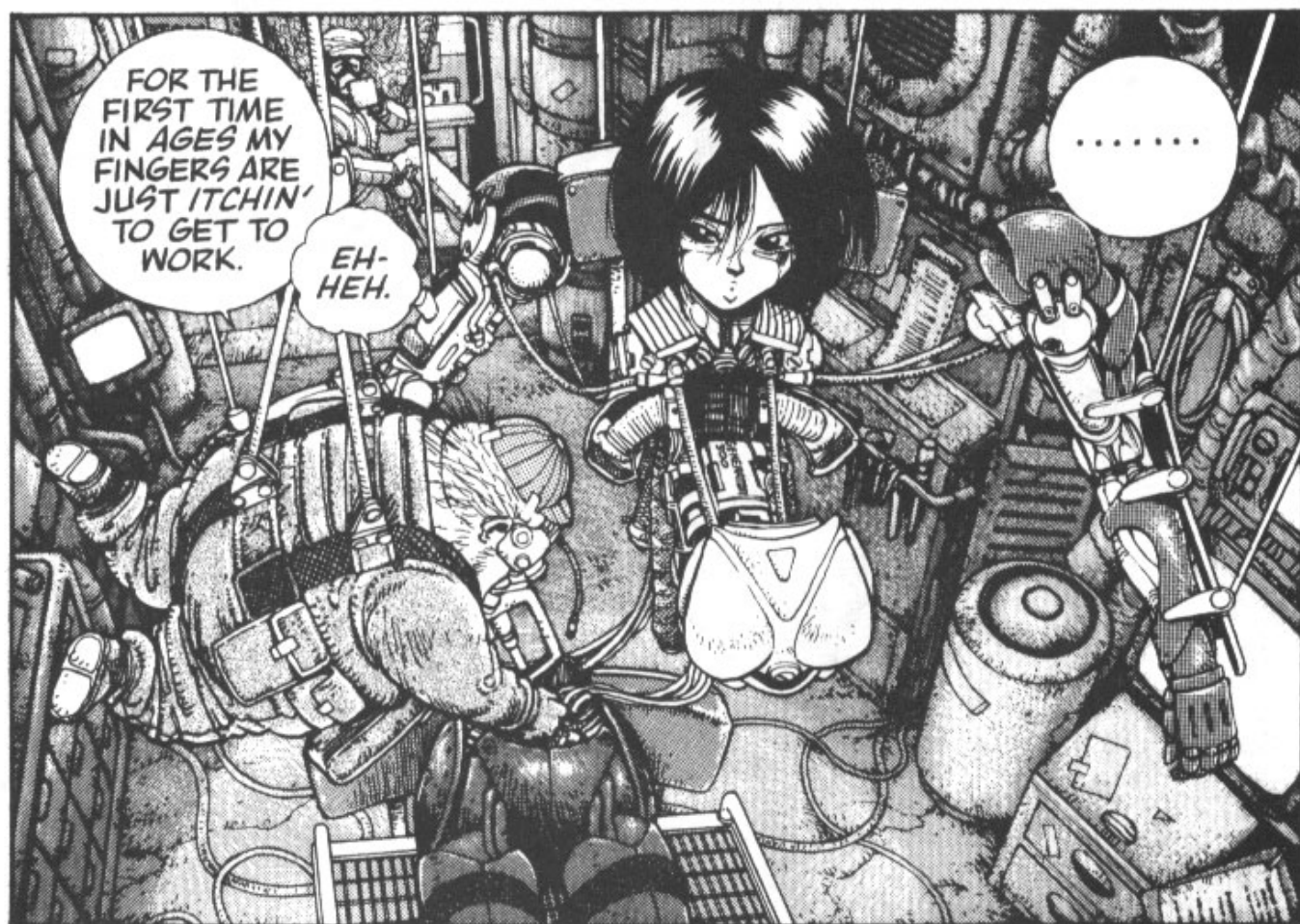






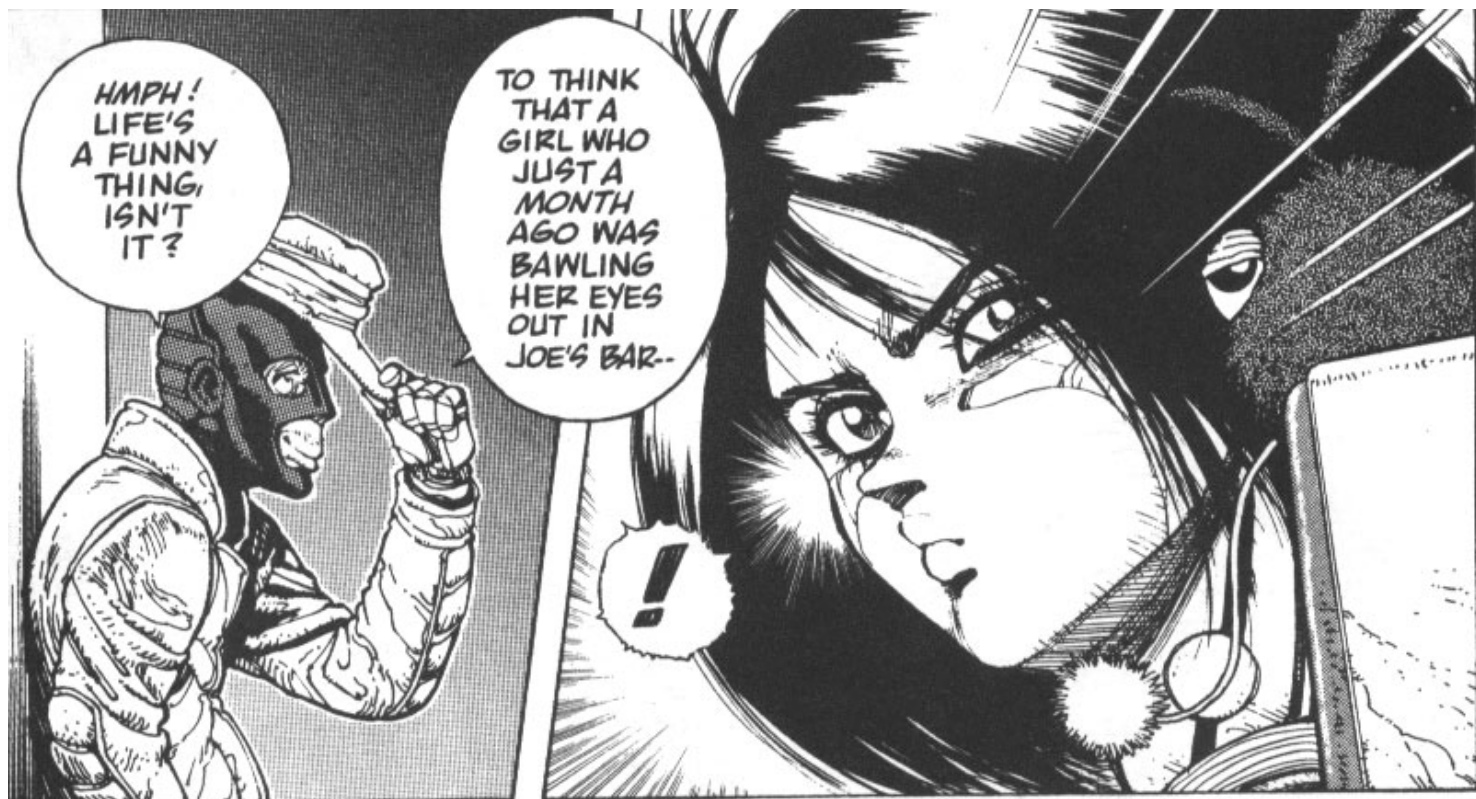












HMPH!  
LIFE'S  
A FUNNY  
THING,  
ISN'T  
IT?

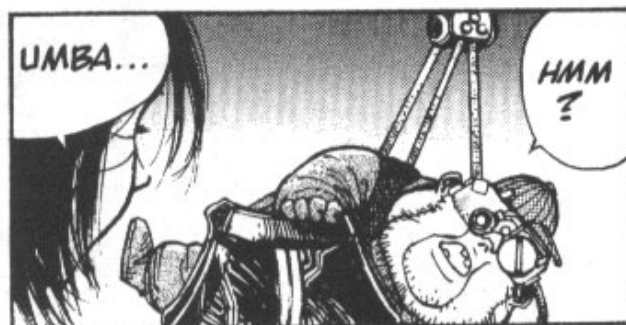
TO THINK  
THAT A  
GIRL WHO  
JUST A  
MONTH  
AGO WAS  
BAWLING  
HER EYES  
OUT IN  
JOE'S BAR--



NOW,  
ED!



OOPS,  
THAT'S RIGHT.  
PROMISED  
NOT TO  
BRING THAT  
UP...



UMBA...

HMM  
?



WHY DID  
YOU GIVE MY  
CIRCUIT-RIDER  
BODY FEMALE  
PROPORTIONS?



W-WHY,  
BECAUSE  
YOU'RE  
A GIRL,  
O'COURSE...

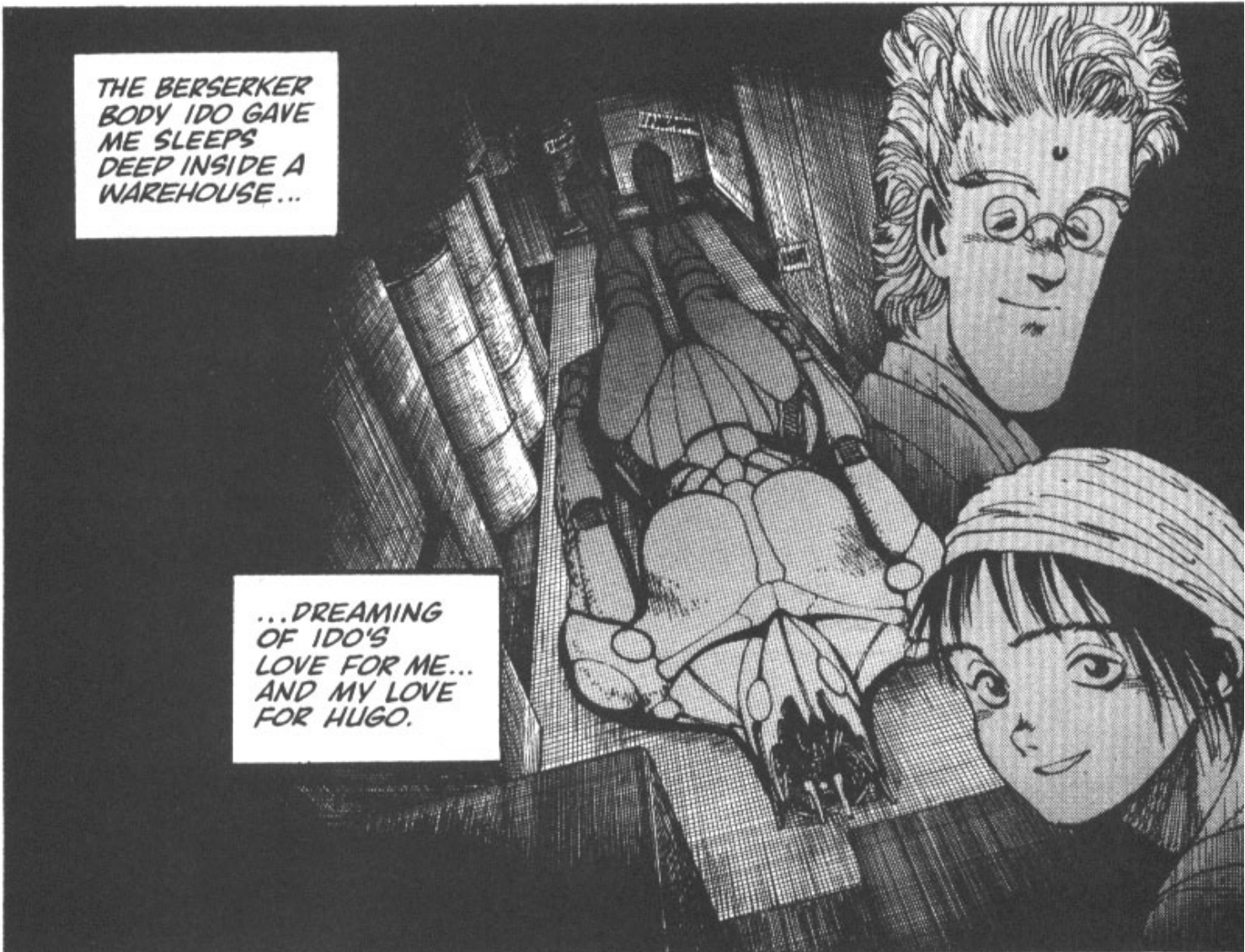
...PLUS IT'S  
LIGHT-WEIGHT  
AND  
HIGH-SPEED--  
FOR A  
HUMANOID.  
BESIDES, THE  
SPECTATORS  
GET A RISE  
OUT OF IT.



AFTER  
HUGO,  
I...

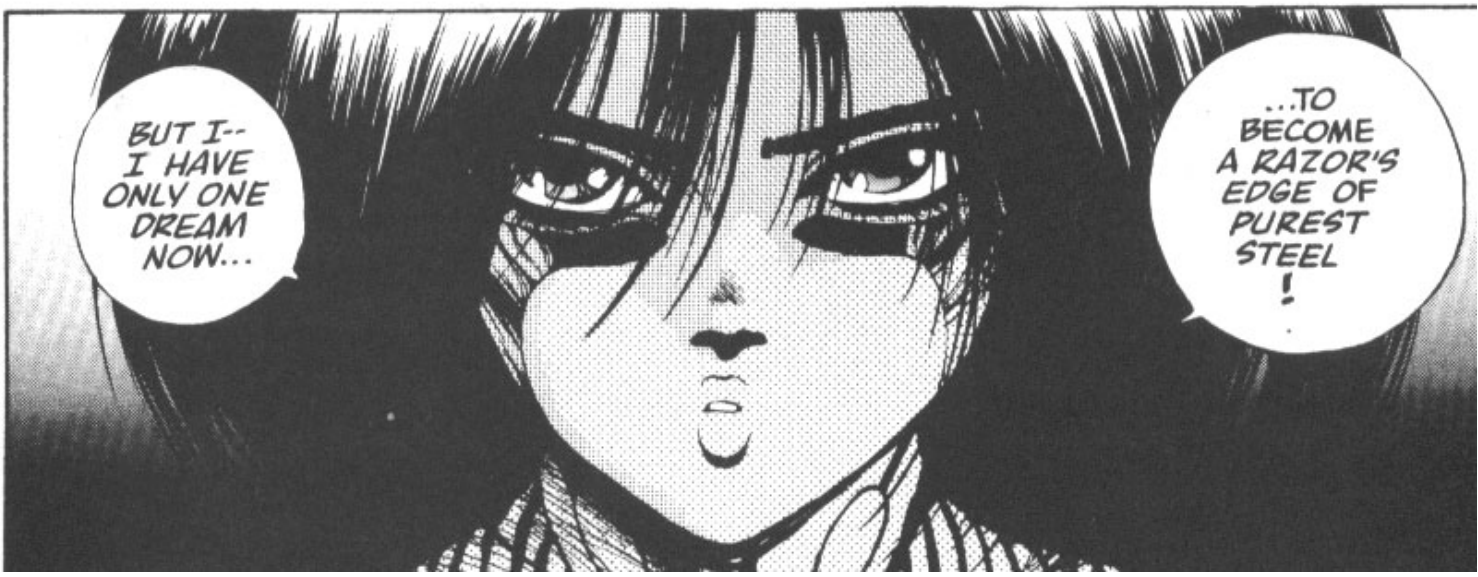
...I WANTED  
TO FORGET  
EVERYTHING.

THAT'S WHY  
I APPLIED  
TO BECOME  
A MOTORBALL  
PLAYER.



THE BERSERKER  
BODY IDO GAVE  
ME SLEEPS  
DEEP INSIDE A  
WAREHOUSE...

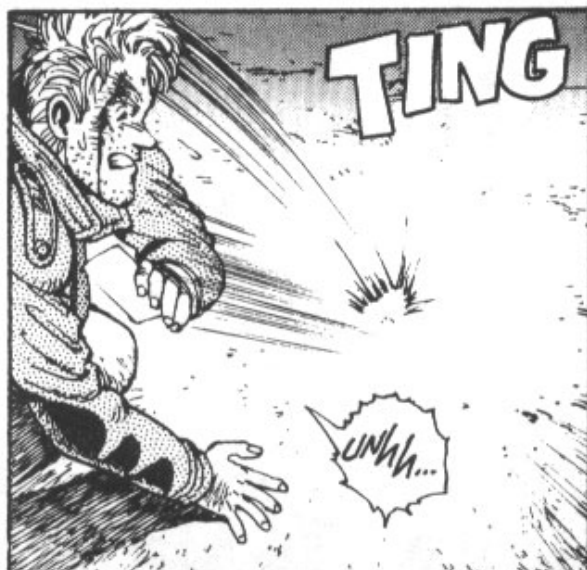
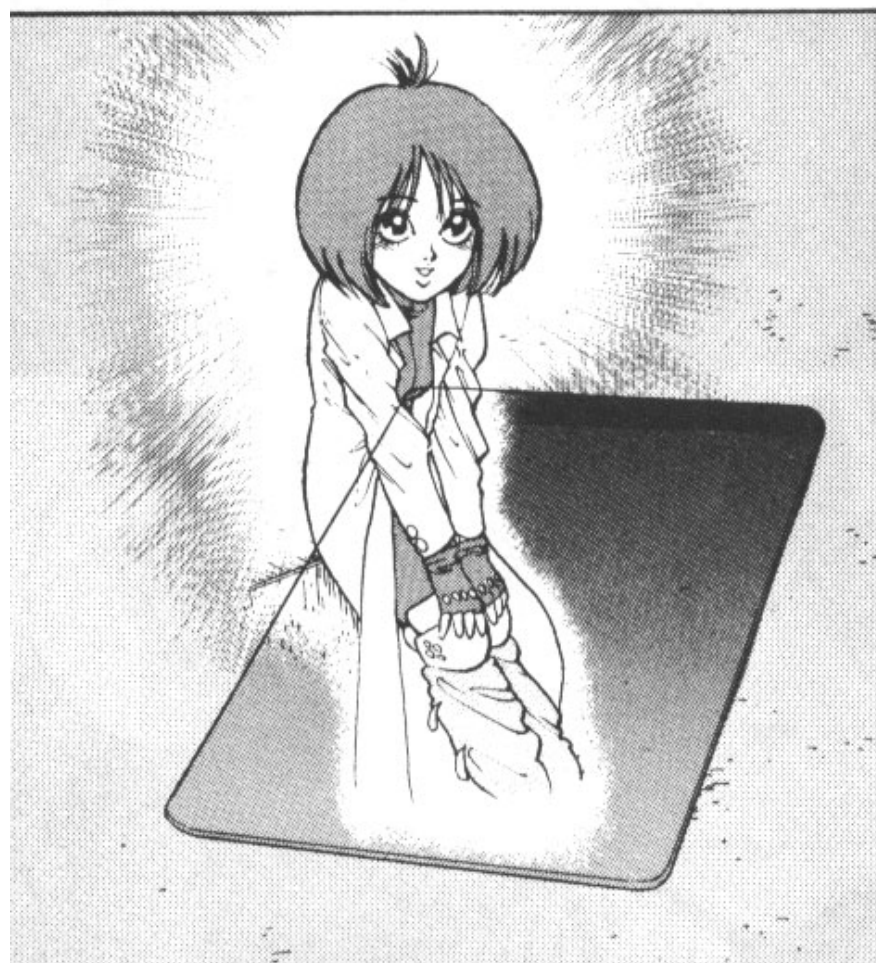
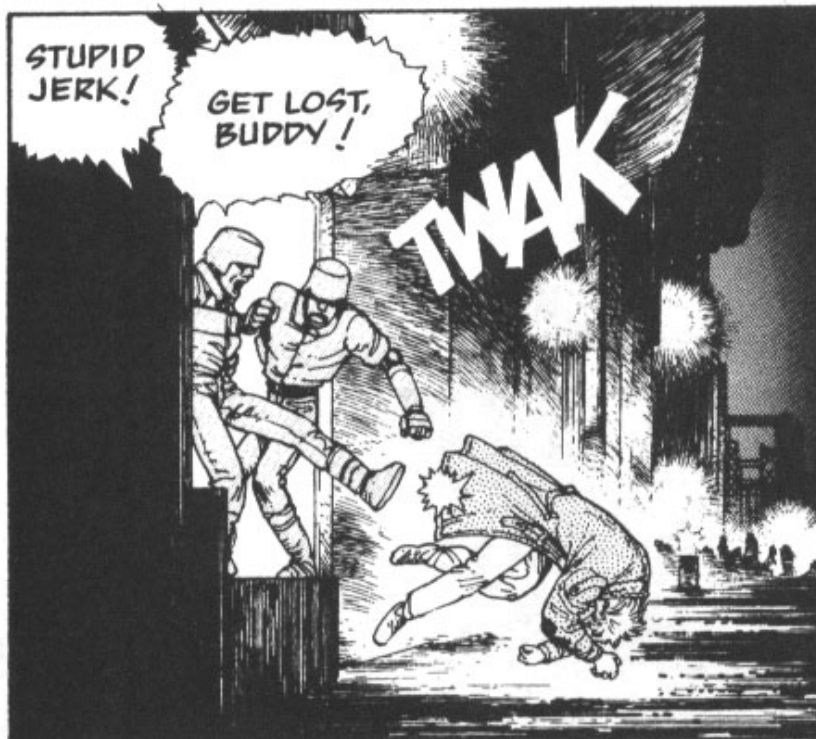
...DREAMING  
OF IDO'S  
LOVE FOR ME...  
AND MY LOVE  
FOR HUGO.



BUT I--  
I HAVE  
ONLY ONE  
DREAM  
NOW...

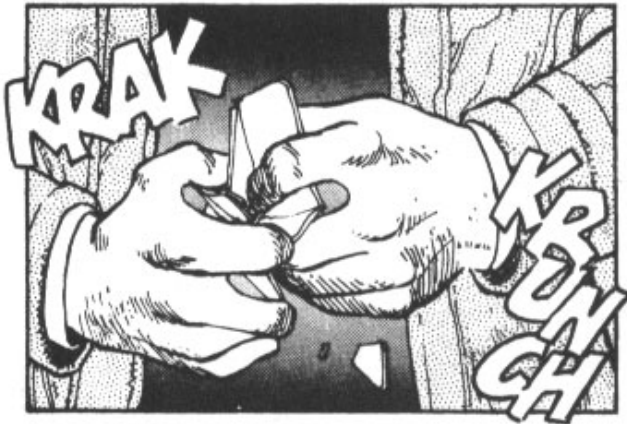
...TO  
BECOME  
A RAZOR'S  
EDGE OF  
PUREST  
STEEL  
!







A-ALITA'S CHANGED...  
SHE'S IN ANOTHER  
WORLD NOW...

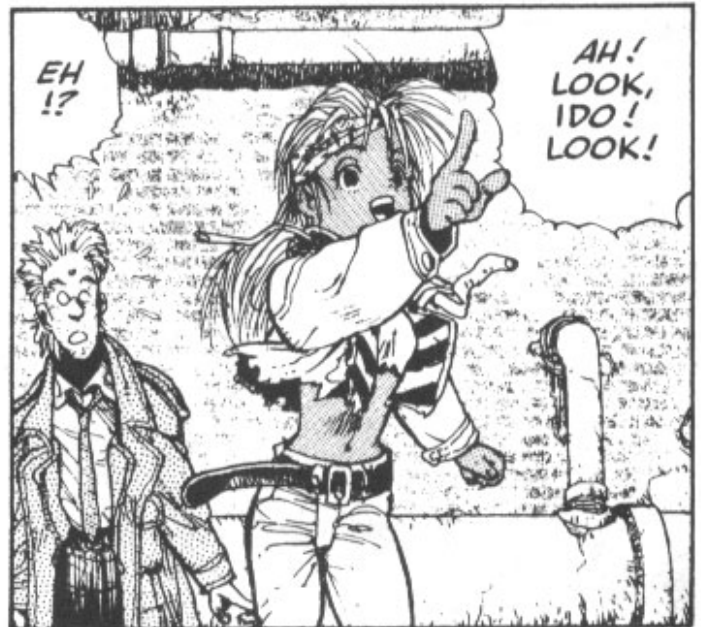
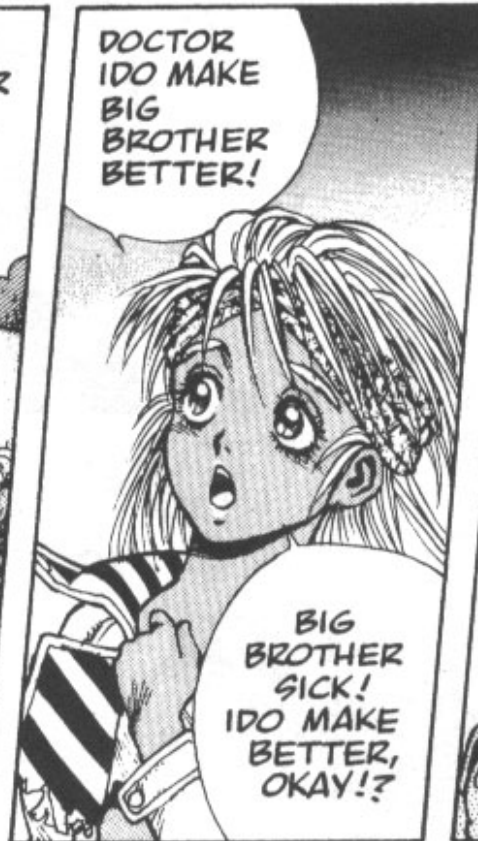
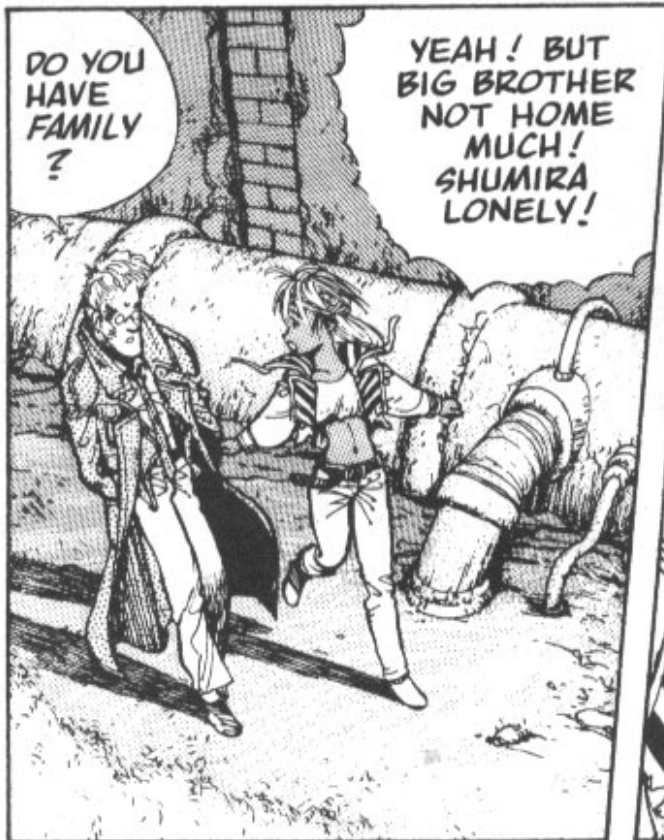
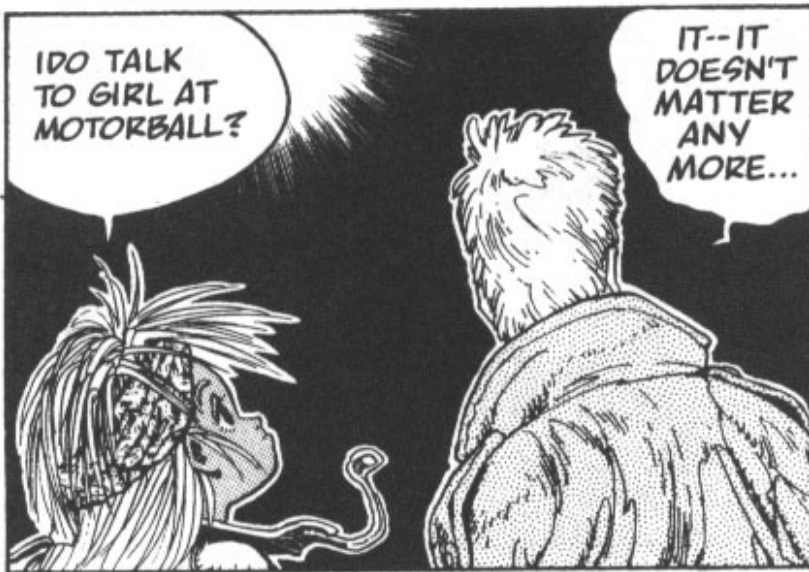


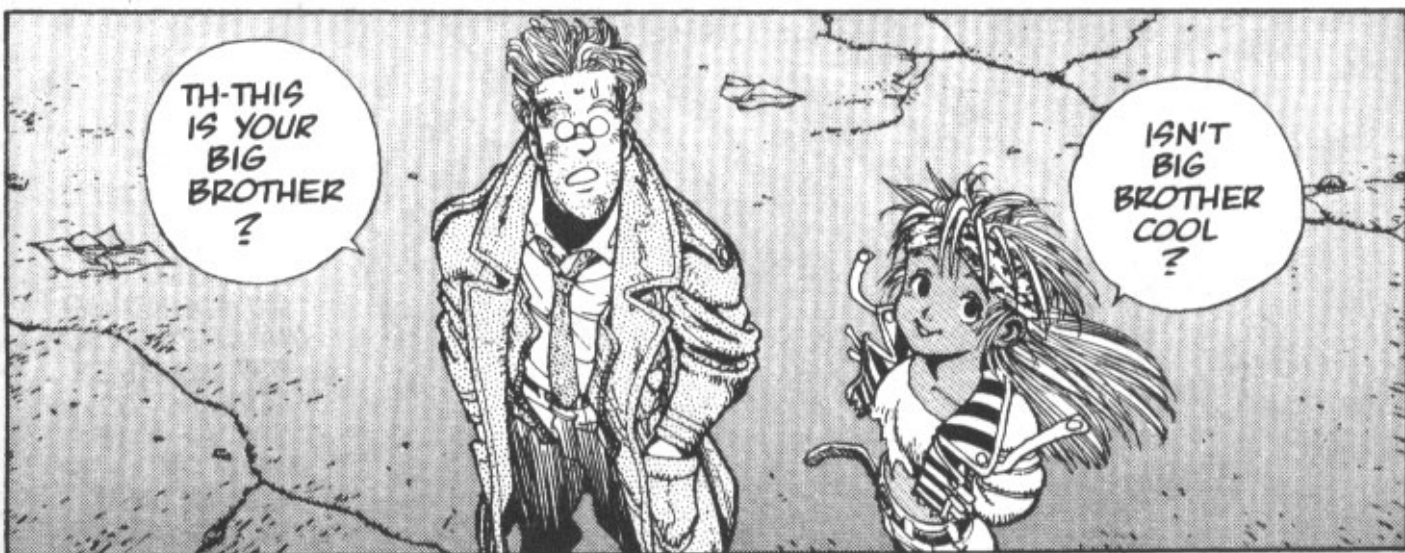
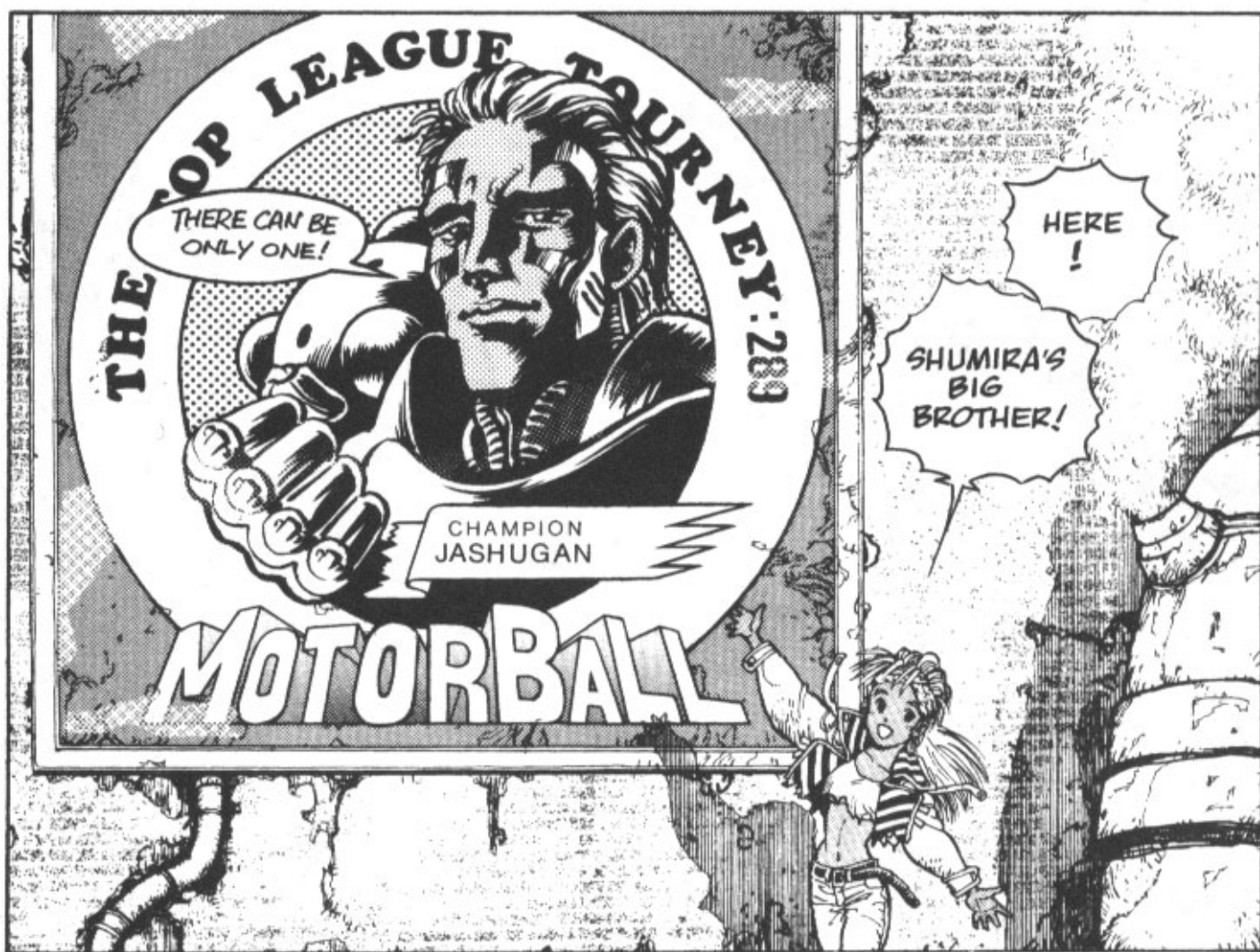
IDO  
!

SHUMIRA...

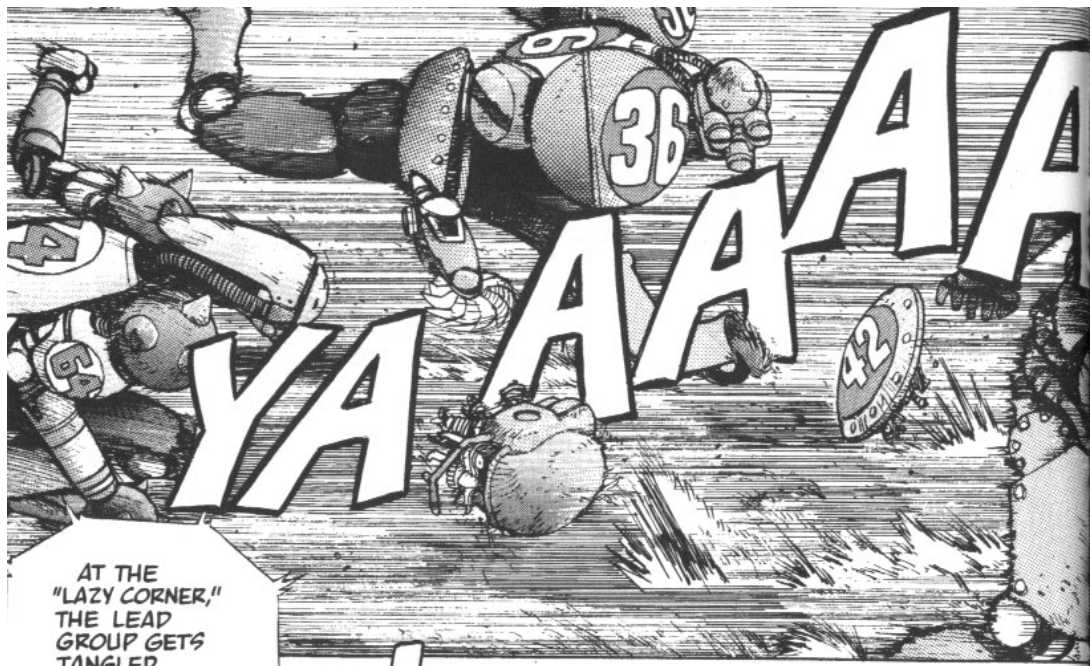
IDO  
BLEEDING!  
IS IDO  
OKAY?











AT THE  
"LAZY CORNER,"  
THE LEAD  
GROUP GETS  
TANGLED  
AND WIPES  
OUT!

KAKRESH

BLAM

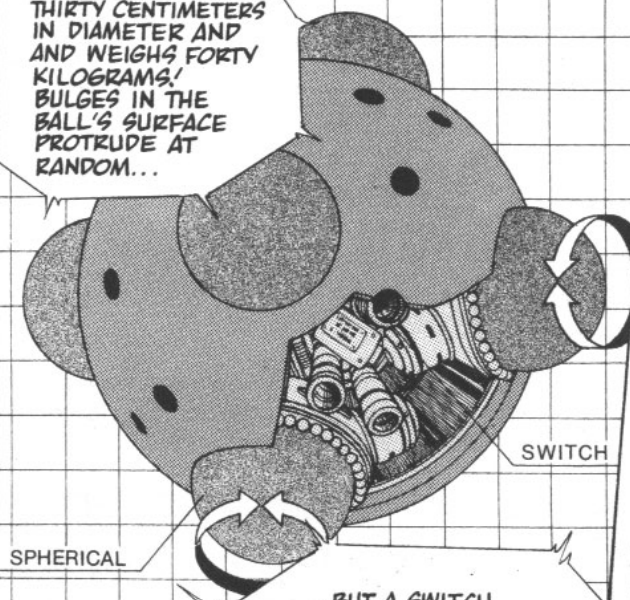
KATAM

THE MOTORBALL  
IS FREE, BUT  
NONE OF THE  
FOLLOWING  
PLAYERS  
CAN GET A  
HOLD ON IT!

WITH THE  
BALL  
REBOUNDING  
UNPREDICTABLY,  
IT'S ALL THEY  
CAN DO TO  
AVOID THE  
LEAD GROUP'S  
CRASH AND  
NEGOTIATE  
THE  
CORNER!



THE MOTORBALL IS  
THIRTY CENTIMETERS  
IN DIAMETER AND  
AND WEIGHS FORTY  
KILOGRAMS!  
BULGES IN THE  
BALL'S SURFACE  
PROTRUDE AT  
RANDOM...



...BUT A SWITCH  
INSIDE THE GRIP HOLES  
CAN MOMENTARILY  
SHUT DOWN THE INTER-  
NAL MOTOR TO ROTATE  
THE BULGES. WITHOUT  
GRASPING IT BY THE  
HOLES PROPERLY, THE  
BALL IS IMPOSSIBLE  
TO HOLD FOR LONG!

BUT WAIT!  
SOMEONE  
JUST SNATCHED  
THE BALL  
AWAY--RACING  
LIKE A BLACK  
WIND!



A black and white manga panel showing Alita in a dynamic, forward-leaning pose. She is wearing her signature helmet and armor. Her right arm is extended forward, and her left hand is near her face. The background consists of horizontal motion lines. A large, stylized sound effect 'SHHHASH' is written across the middle of the panel. Two speech bubbles are present: one in the top left and one in the bottom left.

ONCE  
AGAIN, IT'S  
NUMBER 99--  
ALITA! WILL  
THIS BE HER  
FIFTH  
CONSECUTIVE  
VICTORY  
!?

"...TO  
BECOME A  
RAZOR'S  
EDGE OF  
PUREST  
STEEL!"

A black and white manga panel showing a close-up of Dr. Ido's face. He is wearing a cap and a high-collared coat. He has a mustache and a serious expression. The background is solid black.

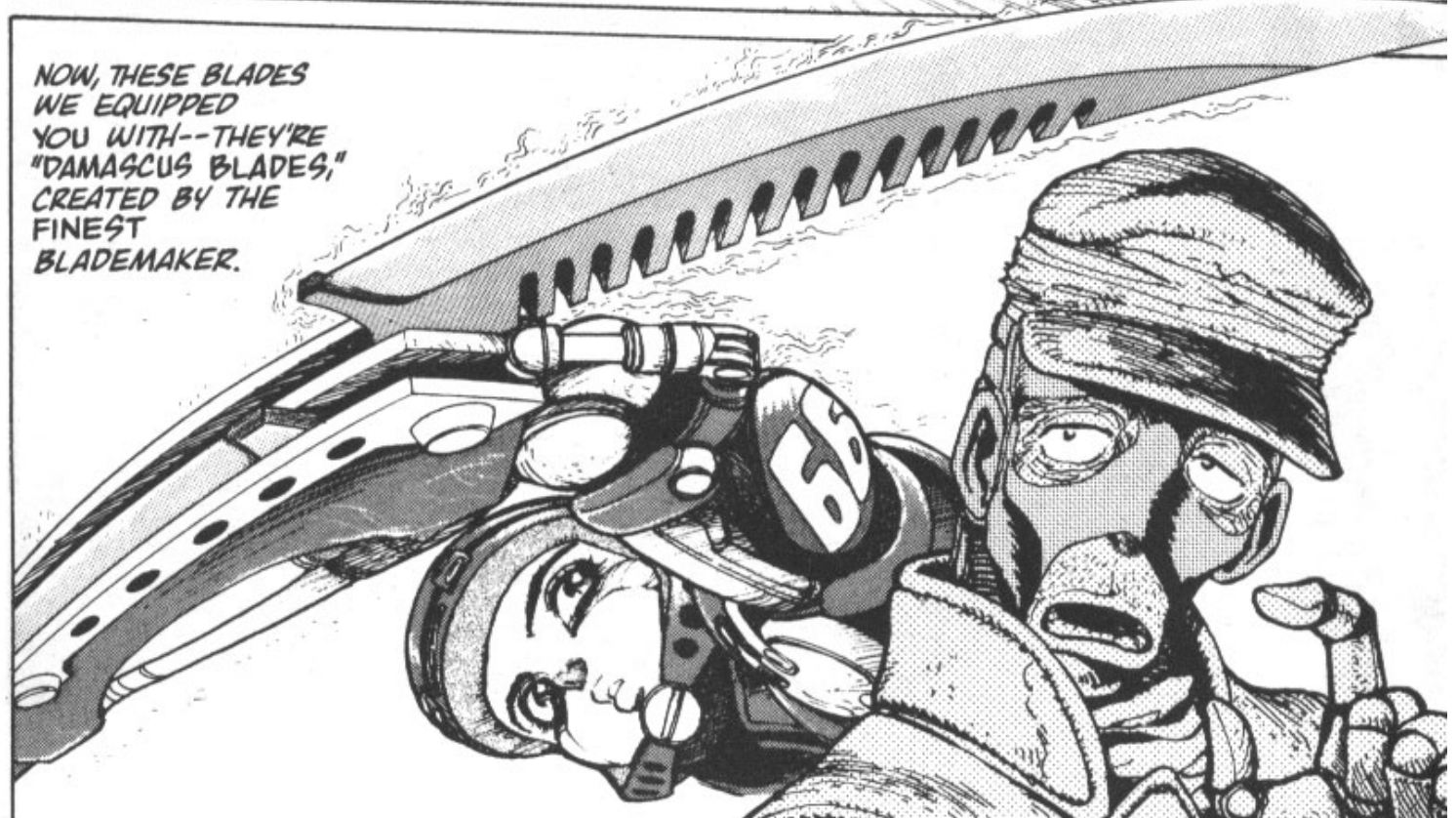
HMPH!  
SO  
NAIVE...

...STEEL OF  
HIGH PURITY IS  
SURPRISINGLY  
FRAGILE,  
ALITA.





NOW, THESE BLADES  
WE EQUIPPED  
YOU WITH--THEY'RE  
"DAMASCUS BLADES,"  
CREATED BY THE  
FINEST  
BLADEMAKER.



THERE'S A  
BEAUTIFUL  
PATTERN TO  
THE SURFACE...

...CAUSED BY  
THE MIXING OF  
VARIOUS METALS  
OF DIFFERING  
HARDNESS.

TO THINK...  
THESE BLADES  
WERE MADE  
USING SCRAP  
METAL...

...THE STRONGEST  
STEEL IN ALL THE  
UNIVERSE...AND  
IT CAN ONLY BE  
MADE HERE--IN  
THE SCRAPYARD.

THE IMPURITIES  
GIVE LIFE TO THE  
STEEL, RESULTING  
IN FLEXIBILITY  
AND TENACITY--  
THE STRENGTHS  
OF THE  
DAMASCUS  
BLADE.





SHHHASH

AND AT THE  
FINAL CORNER...NUMBER  
62, "ARMOR TOGO,"  
TURNS, BRAKES, AND  
ASSUMES THE "DRAGON-  
FLY STANCE"! WE'RE  
ABOUT TO WITNESS THE  
THIRD LEAGUE CHAMPION'S  
DEADLIEST TECHNIQUE!

I  
CAN  
DO IT  
!

ANTA

CAN YOU  
MATCH THE  
LIGHTNING  
THRUST  
OF THE JIGEN  
SCHOOL?!

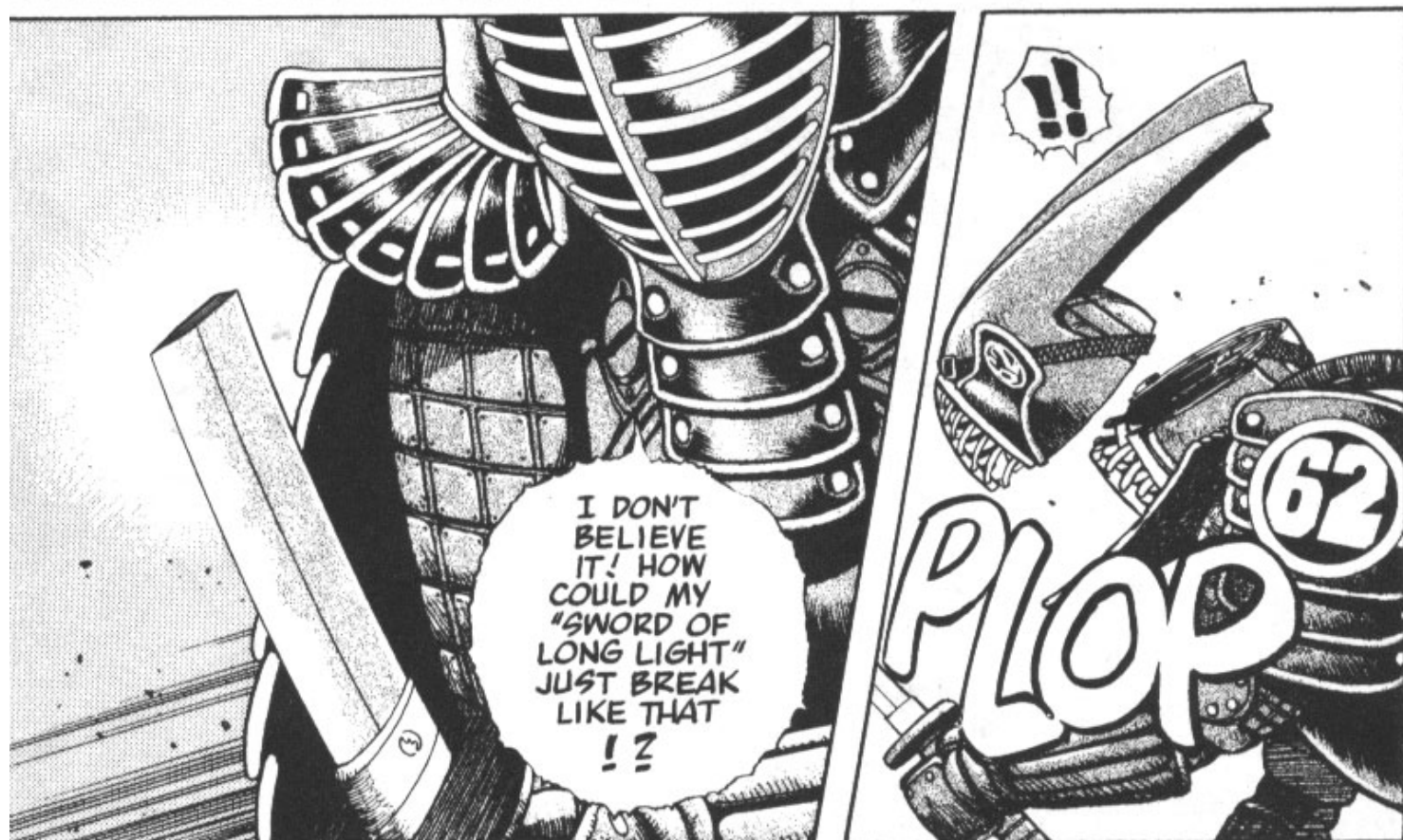
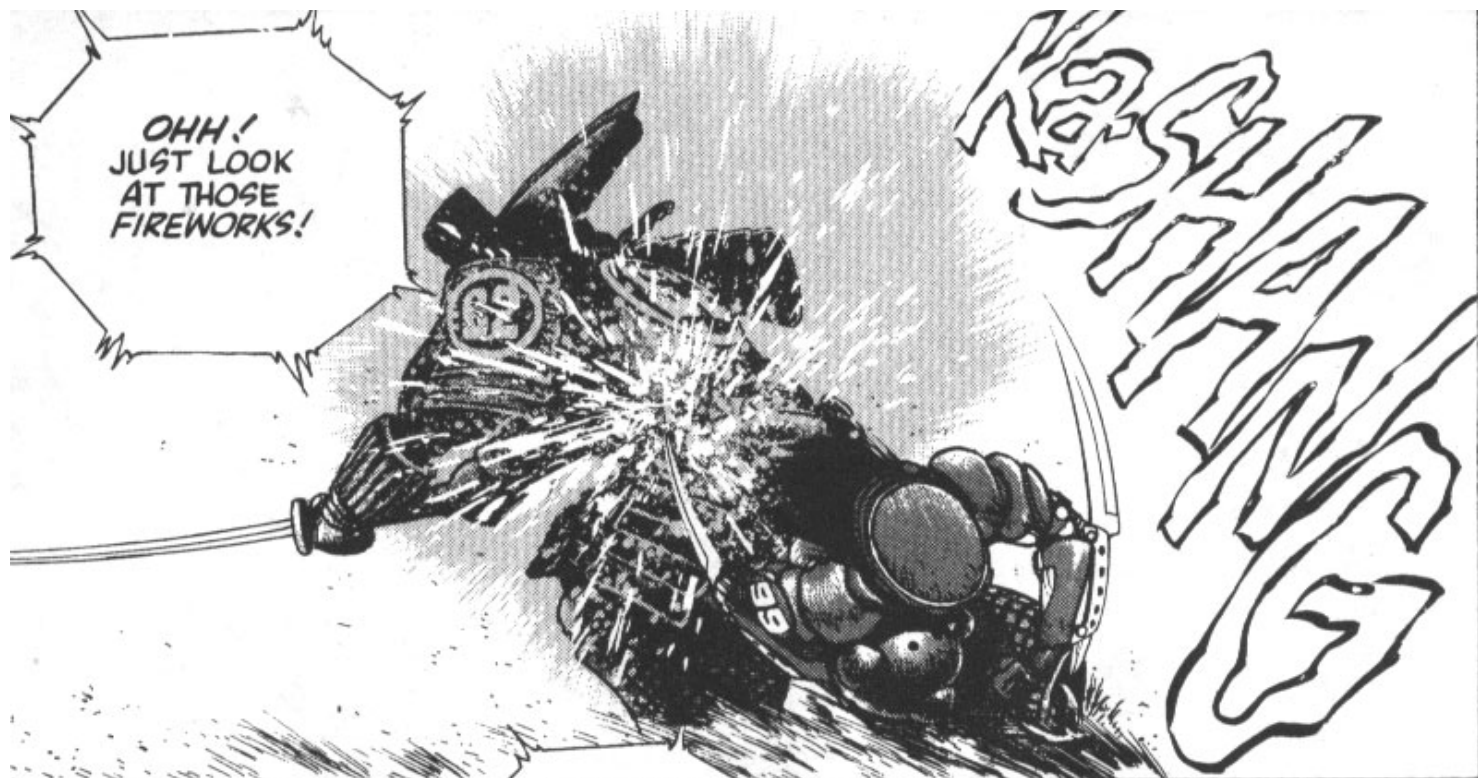
YAAAAA!

SKREEE

KREEK

SKASH

TANG



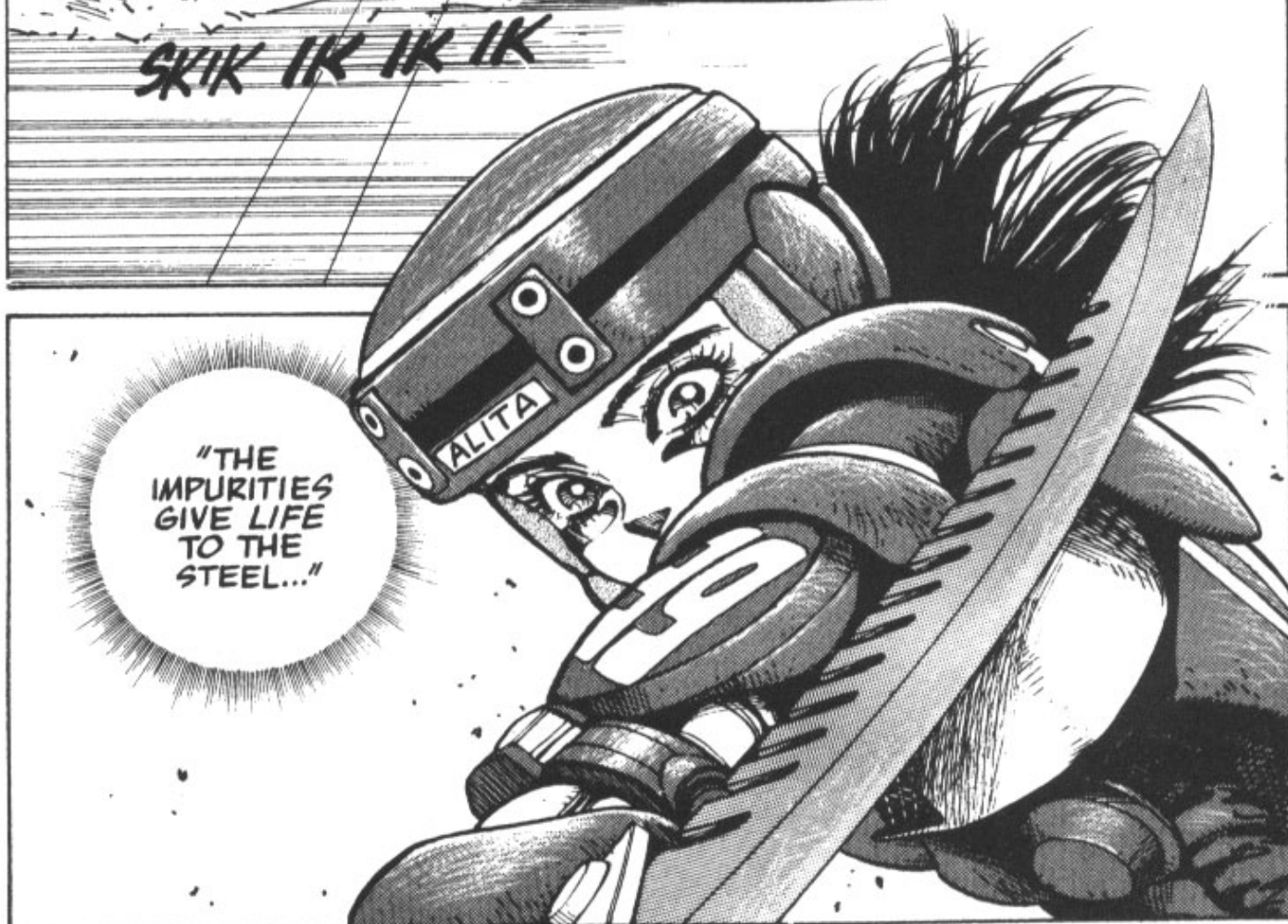




TOGO'S HEAD  
HAS FALLEN! THE  
CHAMP HAS BEEN  
DEFEATED! THE  
WINNER IS NUM-  
BER 99--ALITA!

**SKEECH**

**SKIK IK IK IK**



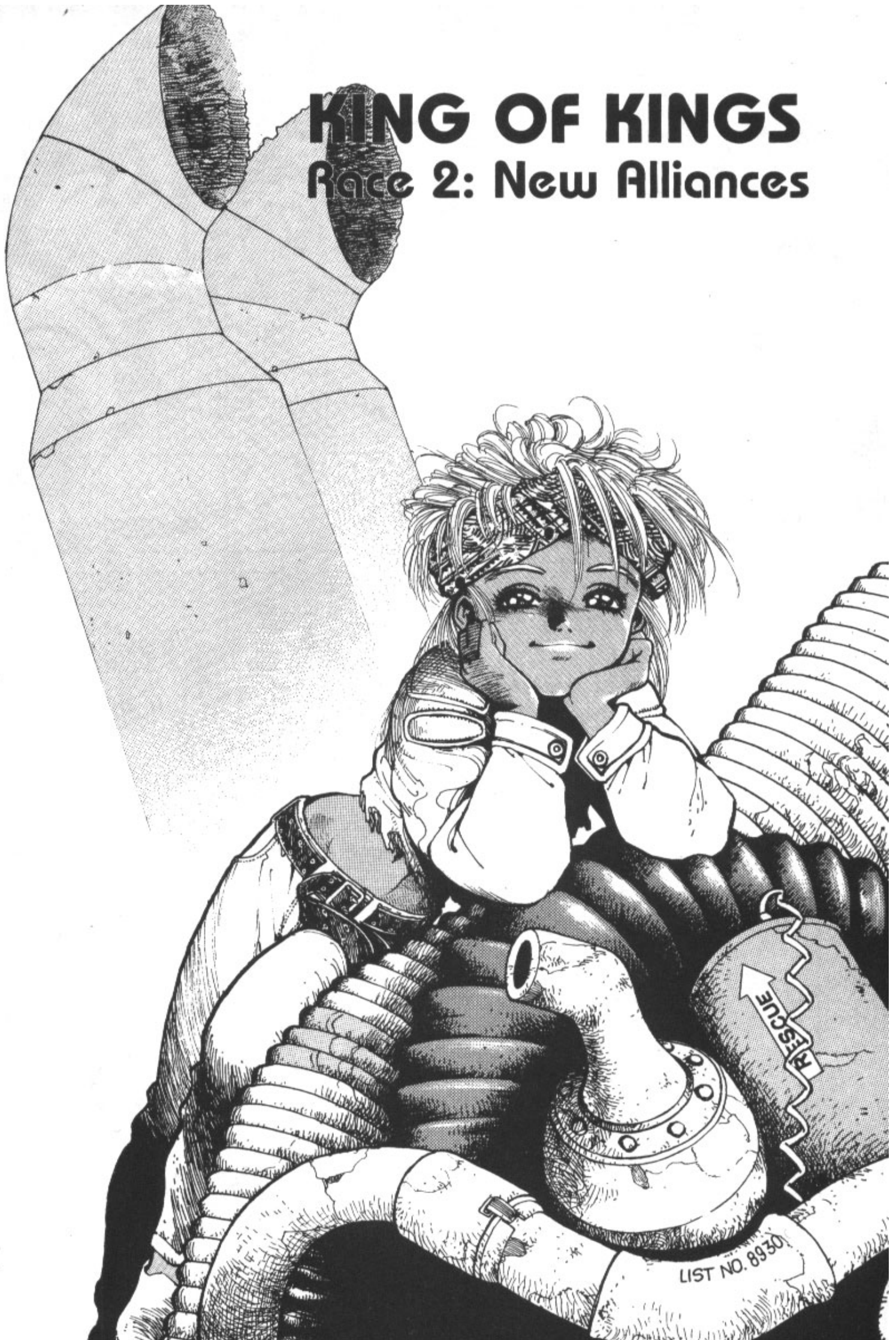
"THE  
IMPURITIES  
GIVE LIFE  
TO THE  
STEEL..."

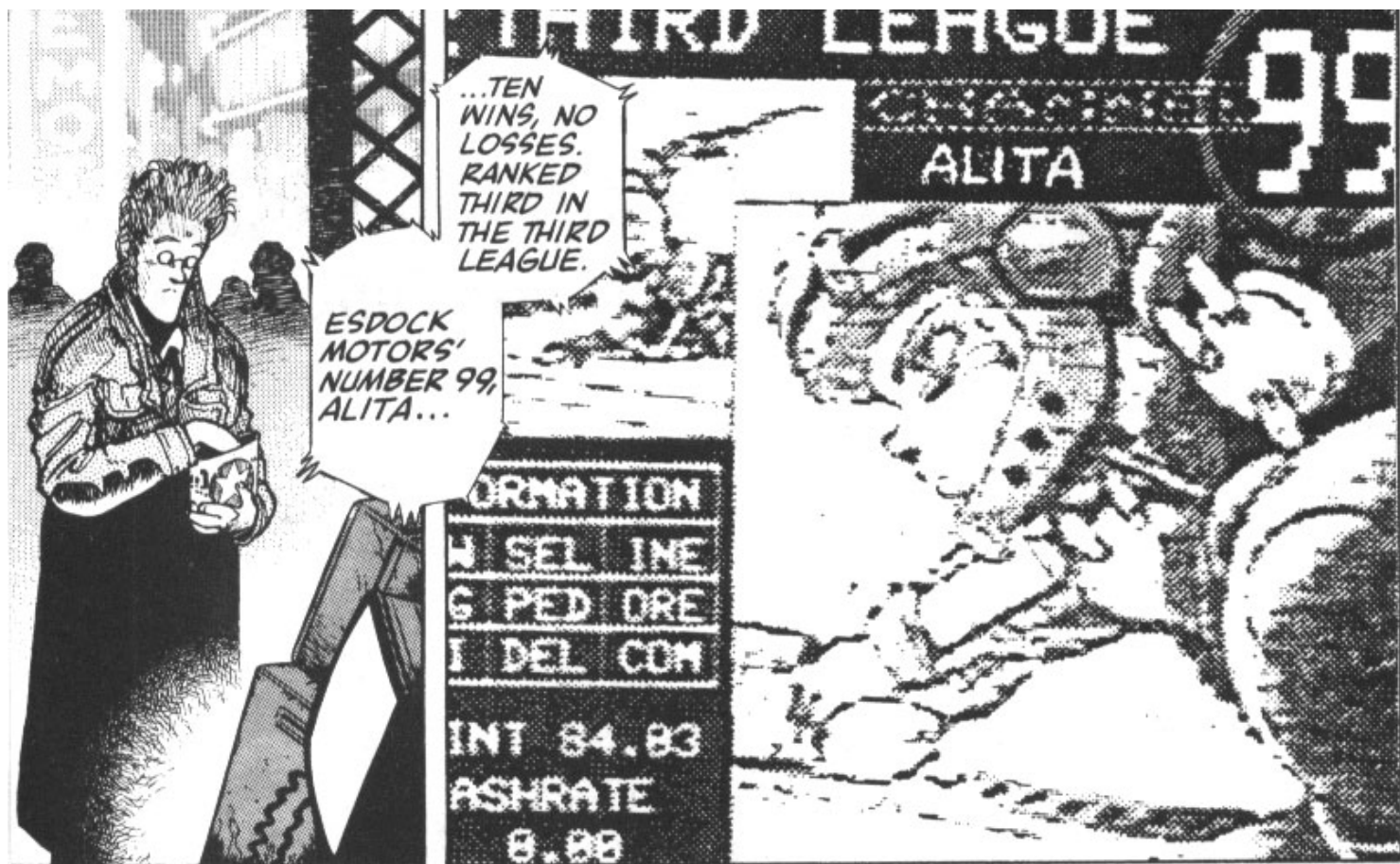




# KING OF KINGS

## Race 2: New Alliances









BUT  
ISN'T YOUR  
BROTHER  
SICK?  
YOU  
SAID...

SHUMIRA  
WORRIED,  
TOO.

BUT BIG  
BROTHER IS  
IS  
CHAMPION!  
CAN'T  
LOSE!



JASHUGAN, THE  
CHAMPION OF THE  
TOP LEAGUE...THE  
MOST POWERFUL  
MAN IN THE  
WORLD OF  
MOTORBALL.

THERE CAN BE  
ONLY ONE!

CHAMPION  
JASHUGA

I'VE BEEN  
STAYING AT  
HIS SISTER'S  
APARTMENT  
FOR A WEEK  
ALREADY, BUT  
I STILL  
HAVEN'T  
MET HIM.



YAY!  
HOORAY!

MOTORBALL  
TOP LEAGUE  
GALVANI CIRCUIT

JASHUGAN

CERTAIN  
VICTORY



HOORAY!

LOOKS  
LIKE  
STANDING  
ROOM  
ONLY...

WHEN  
JASHUGAN'S  
IN THE RING,  
IT'S ALWAYS  
SOLD OUT. EVEN  
THE MONITORS.  
WE'LL HAVE TO  
WATCH FROM  
OUTSIDE.

...REMINDS  
ME OF THE  
DAYS WHEN I  
WAS IN THE  
GAME...

YEA!  
GO!



YOU'RE  
ABOUT TO MAKE  
THE JUMP TO  
THE SECOND  
LEAGUE, BUT  
STUDY THE TOP  
FIGHTS VERY  
CAREFULLY,  
ALITA...

...SOMEDAY  
YOU'LL MAKE THE  
CHALLENGE  
YOURSELF.

.....

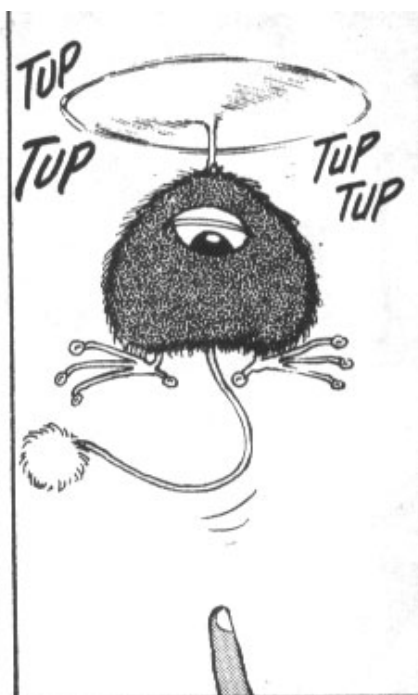


TIP  
TIP  
TIP

SHWEE  
E

OH!  
KIMJI!







AND THE CROWD GOES WILD...

...AS JASHUGAN, KING OF MOTORBALL, MAKES HIS FIRST APPEARANCE ON THE CIRCUIT IN A MONTH!

BECAUSE OF THE CHAMPION'S INCREDIBLE SKILL, IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO MAKE REASONABLE WAGERS IF HE PLAYS BY THE ORDINARY RULES.

THAT IS WHY THE CHAMPION MUST HANDICAP HIMSELF BY REMOVING HIS RIGHT ARM--AND FACE A THREE-MAN CHALLENGER TEAM!

THE CHALLENGING TEAM IS NUMBER 49, CLAYMORE, RANKED FIFTH...

...NUMBER 87, PIHAGETTA, RANKED SEVENTH...

...AND NUMBER 6, KARASHNIKOFF, RANKED THIRD. ALL THREE ARE SUPERIOR TOP-BALLERS!

YOU MEAN HE TAKES ON THREE CHALLENGERS AT ONCE... AND WITH ONLY ONE ARM!?

TYPICAL OF HIM.

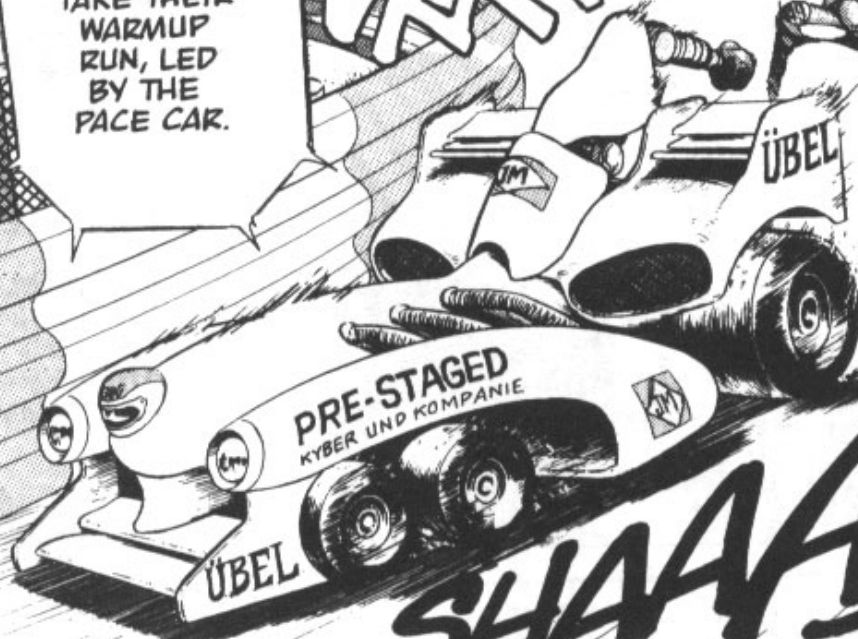
THIS IS INSANE!

WIN, BIG BROTHER! FOR SURE!



THE  
PLAYERS  
TAKE THEIR  
WARMUP  
RUN, LED  
BY THE  
PACE CAR.

VRRRM



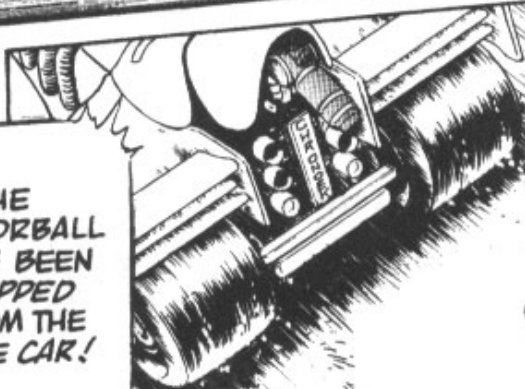
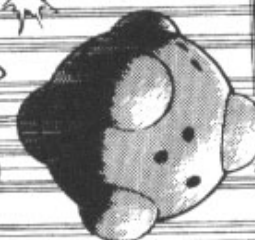
SHAAASH

RRROAR



THE  
MOTORBALL  
HAS BEEN  
DROPPED  
FROM THE  
PACE CAR!

Toik



BASH



KAKASH







THE CHALLENGING TEAM'S SIMULTANEOUS ATTACKS FROM THREE DIRECTIONS AMOUNT TO NOTHING IN THE FACE OF THE KING'S SUPERHUMAN RUNNING!

# HOORAY

THE CHAMP HAS ALREADY LEFT THE PACK BEHIND!

RECENTLY THE CHAMP HAS PARTICIPATED IN FEWER AND FEWER RACES, LEADING SOME FANS TO SPECULATE THAT HE HAD RETIRED OR EVEN DIED...

# FAST

# CASH

...BUT THIS SPLENDID RUNNING HAS BLOWN AWAY SUCH WORRIES! THE KING IS ALIVE AND WELL!

THERE'S NO DOUBT HE'S FAST...

YAY!

YAY!

...BUT IF IT'S SIMPLY A MATTER OF DODGING--I CAN DO THAT MYSELF!

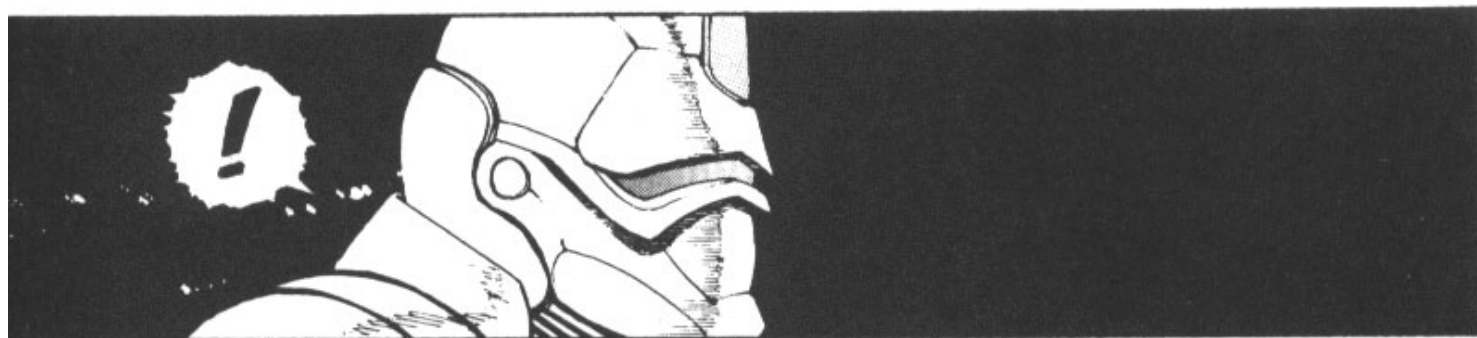
HEH, HEH... YOU'LL SEE HOW AWESOME HE REALLY IS WHEN HE USES HIS "MACHINE FIST."

MACHINE FIST...?

THAT'S THE REASON HE'S UNBEATEN.

BUT HE DOES SEEM TO BE HURRYING TO WIN THIS ONE. WHAT'S HE THINKING...?







JASHUGAN HAS DROPPED THE BALL! COULD THE CHAMP BE HAVING MECHANICAL PROBLEMS!?



THE CHALLENGING TEAM HAS CAUGHT UP AND RECOVERED THE MOTORBALL...



...BUT THE CHALLENGERS FOREGO THE ATTACK, PASSING THE CHAMPION BY!



THE CHAMPION STILL HASN'T RISEN TO HIS FEET!

OOOH!

TALK ABOUT AN UPSET!

BIG BROTHER!



WAIT! THE CHAMPION IS UP-- BUT HE'S STAGGERING, DAZED!



JASHUGAN IS HEADING INTO THE PIT AREA! WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO HIM!?

YAAAAH!

SKSK-SKT

YAAAAH!



JASHUGAN CRUMBLES INTO THE PIT! WILL HE BE ABLE TO CONTINUE THE RACE!? IF HE DOESN'T RETURN TO THE TRACK IN TEN MINUTES, THE CHAMP IS DISQUALIFIED--AND THE CHALLENGING TEAM WILL WIN!

COME ON, SHUMIRA-- LET'S GO SAVE YOUR BROTHER!

CHANG

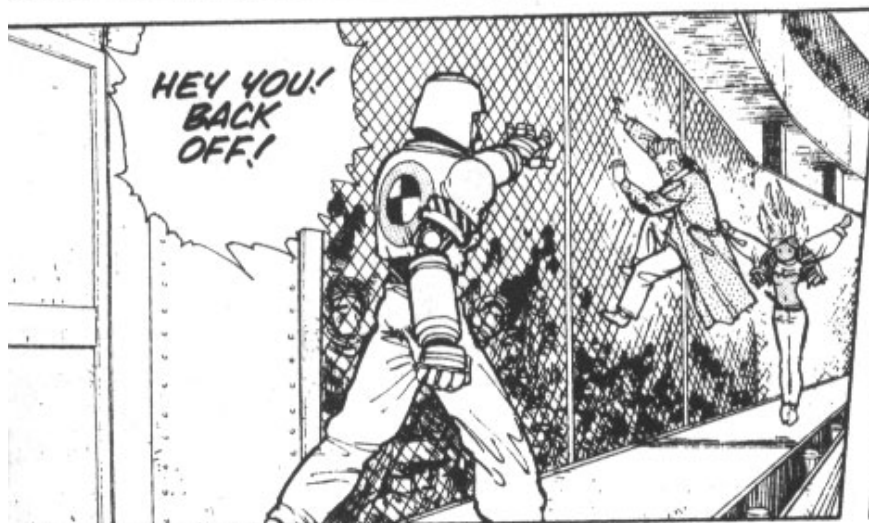
UH-HUH!



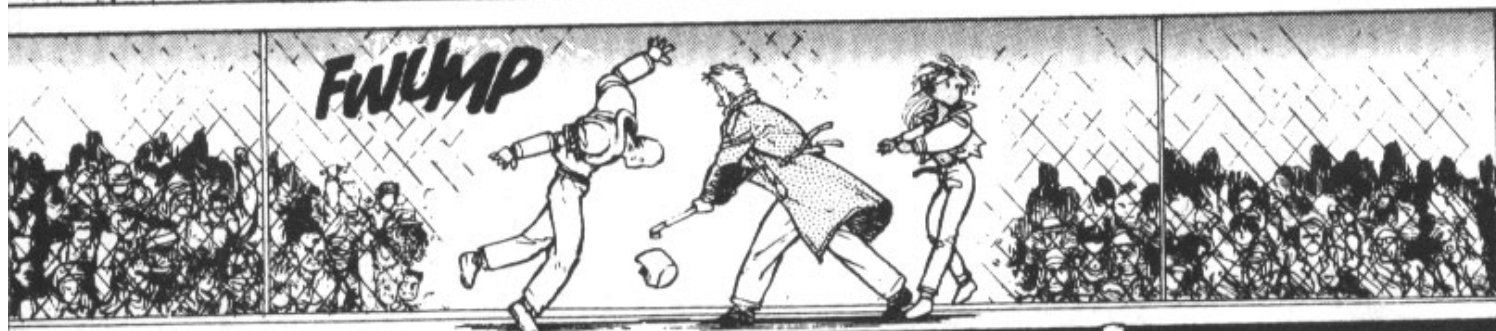
OH M-MAN, HOW RECKLESS CAN YOU GET, THAT FOOL...

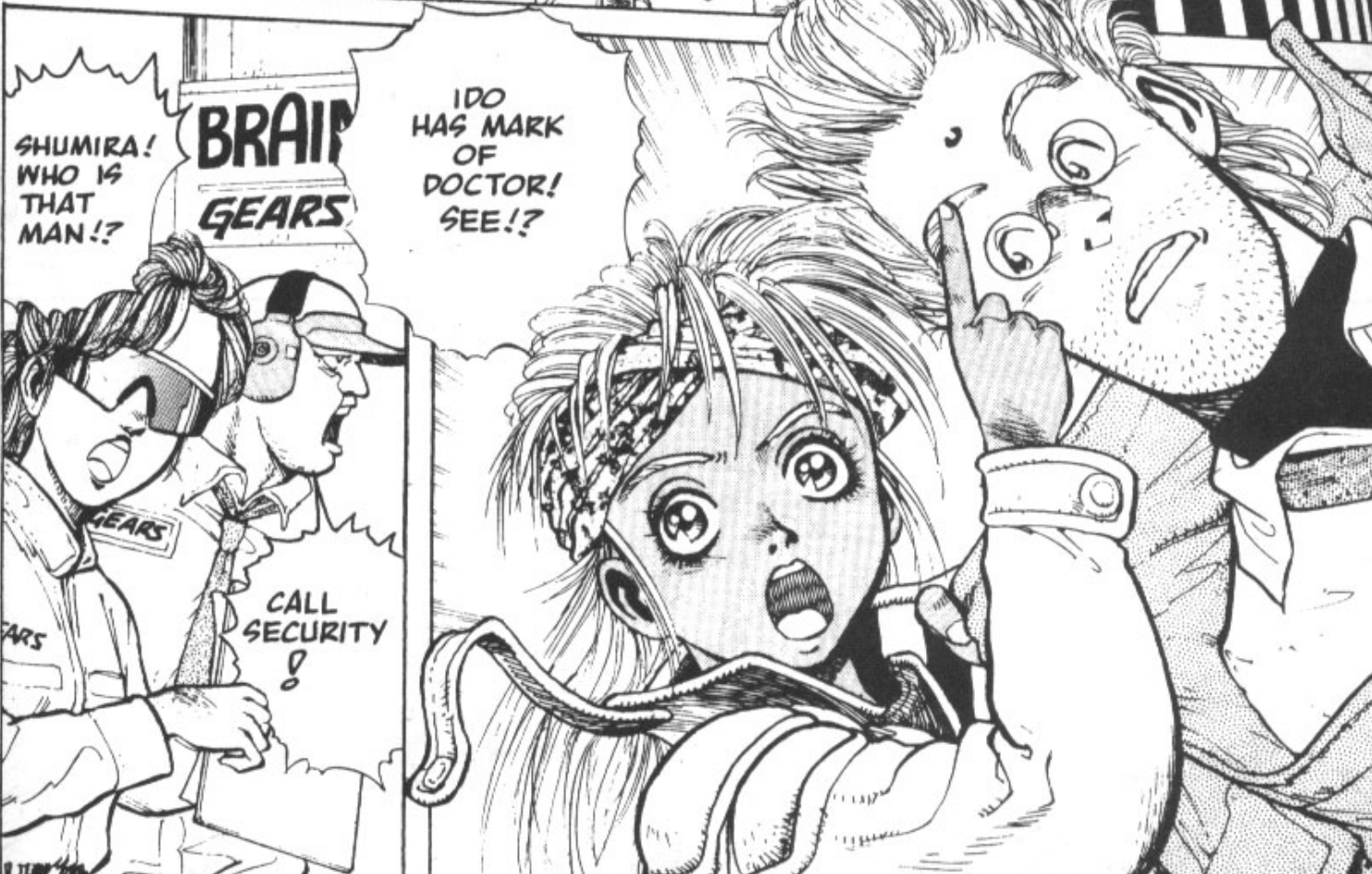
I-DO!

HEY YOU! BACK OFF!

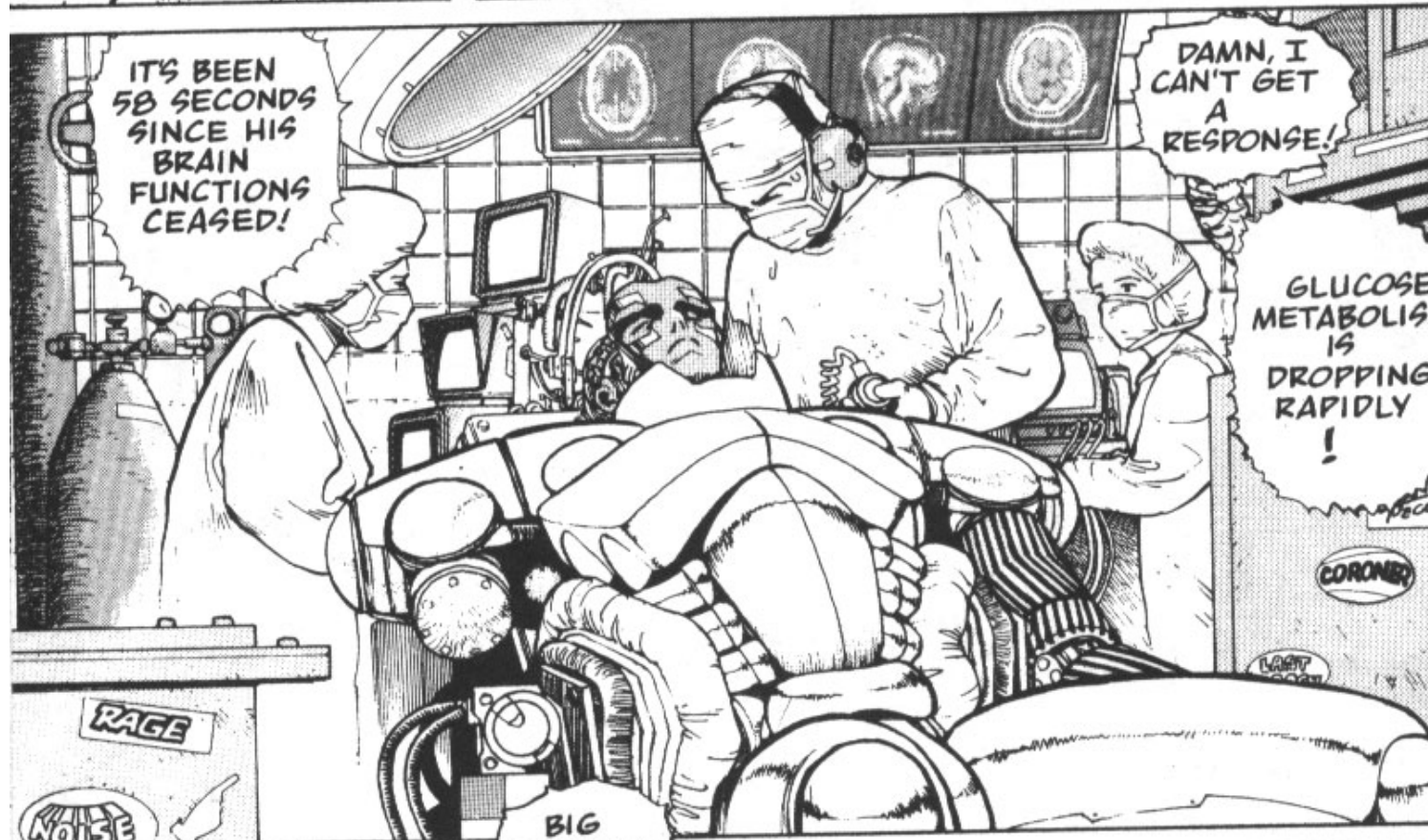


FWUMP









I'VE NEVER EVEN HEARD OF SOMEONE HAVING A FLATLINE ATTACK...

...WHAT'S THE CAUSE? DRUGS? SOME EXTERNAL WOUND? METABOLIC POISONING?

HE'S HAD CEREBRAL RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY. THE NEW SUPERHUMAN ABILITY OF HIS COMBAT BRAIN MADE HIM MOTOR-BALL CHAMPION-- BUT THE PRICE HE PAID WAS THE **CONSTANT RISK OF DEATH.**

BRAIN RECONSTRUCTION !?

HMM...

THEY'VE STRENGTHENED HIS NEURONS WITH ARTIFICIAL PROTEINS... THE COLUMN STRUCTURE OF THE CEREBRAL CORTEX HAS EVEN BEEN REBUILT....!

THIS IS TIPHAREAN TECHNOLOGY CALLED GEHIRN UMBAO! THEY MUST HAVE USED MOLECULAR-SIZED ROBOTS... **NANO-MACHINES!**

SOMEONE IN THE SCRAPYARD HAS THIS LEVEL OF SKILL!?

AND THE PIT CREW RECOGNIZED THE MARK OF A TIPHARES CITIZEN ON MY FOREHEAD... CAN IT BE...!?





OKAY, THIS IS GOING TO BE A LITTLE ROUGH, BUT I WANT YOU TO STIMULATE HIS ACETYLCHOLINE\* PRODUCTION WITH ELECTRODES!

AT THE SAME TIME I WANT A DRIP SOLUTION OF GLUTAMIN ACIDS MIXED WITH PEPTIDES!

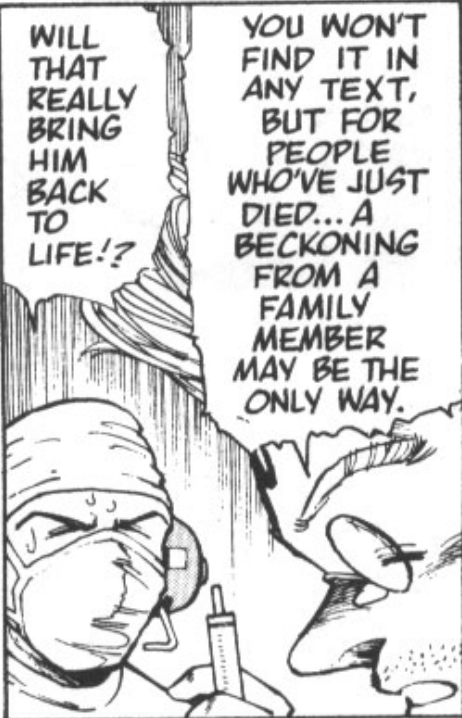
AND SEND SHUMIRA OVER HERE!



WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO, DOCTOR?

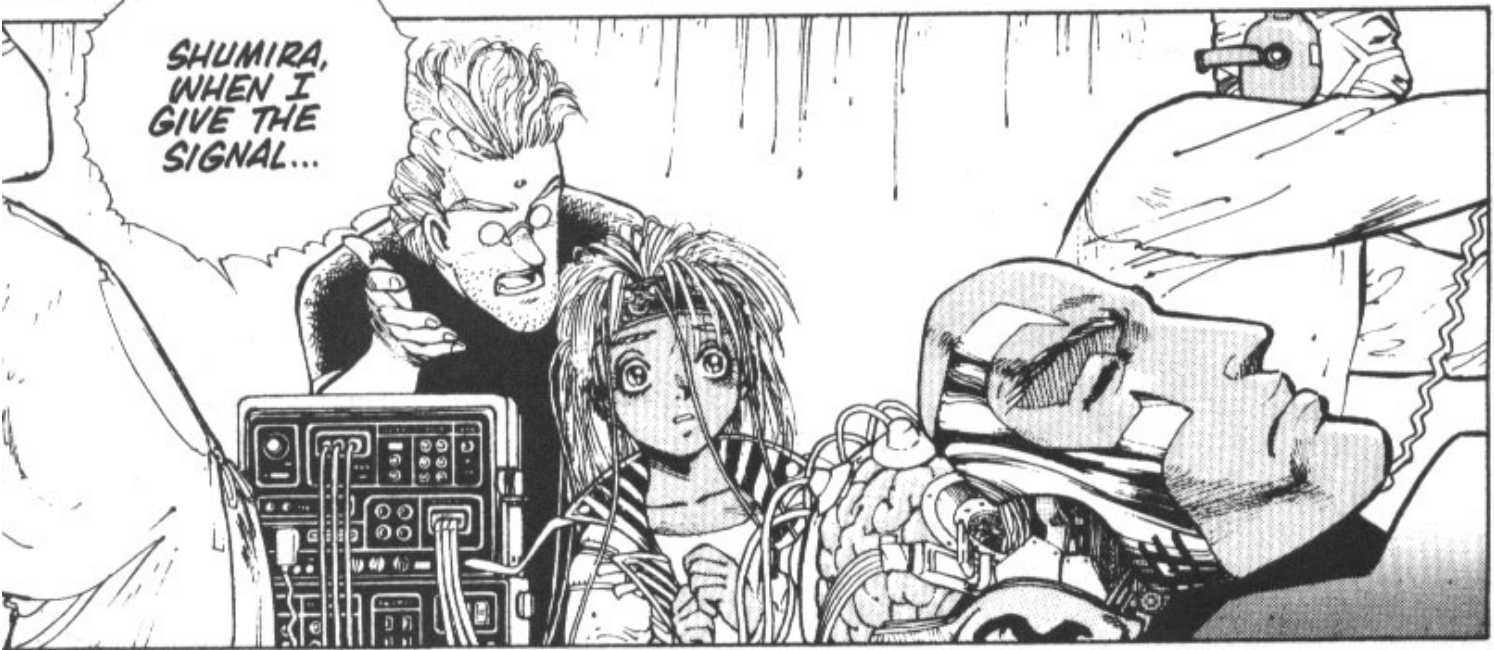
I'M GOING TO PUT SHUMIRA'S BRAIN WAVE PATTERNS THROUGH THE AMP--

"SHOCK" JASHUGAN'S BRAIN!



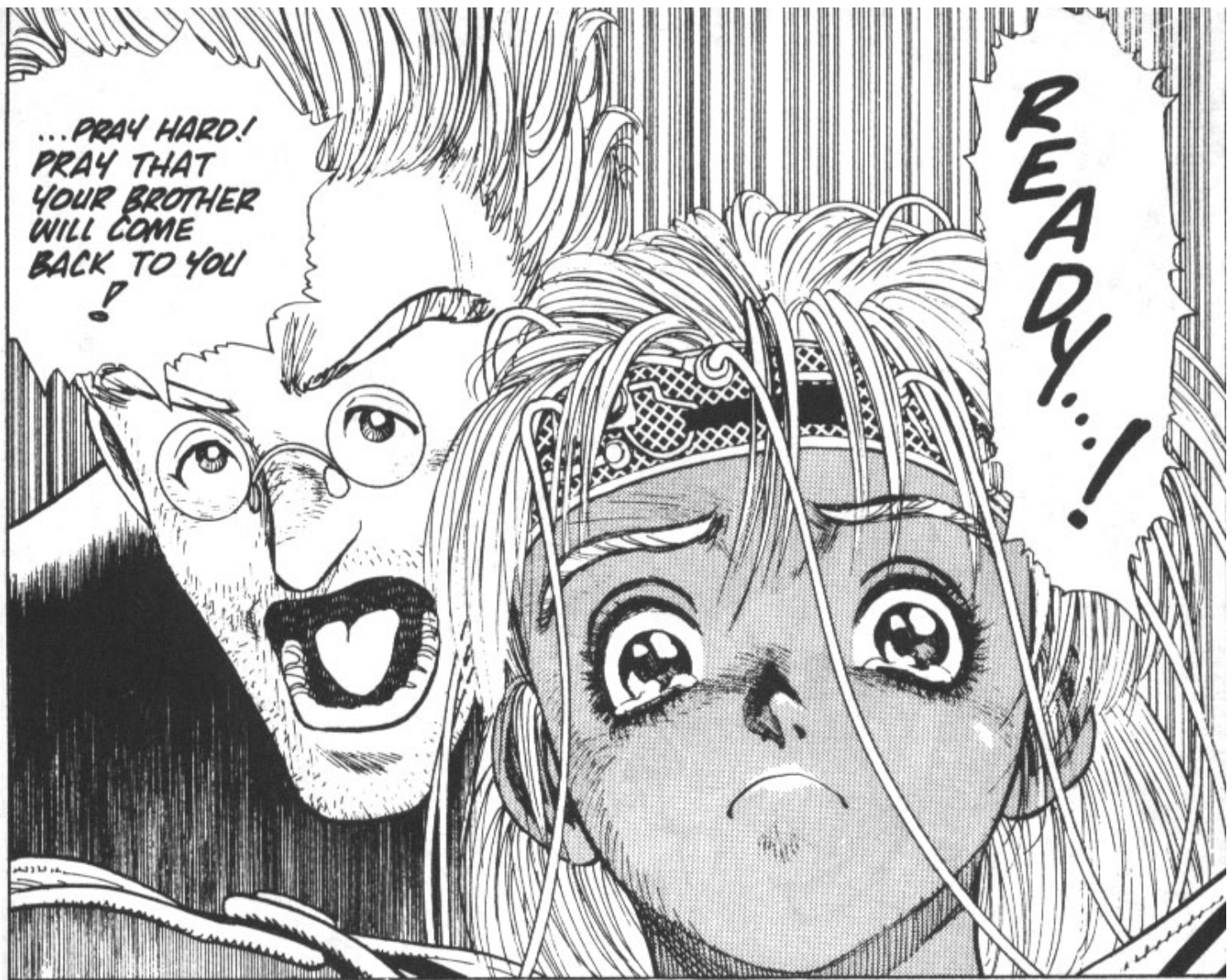
WILL THAT REALLY BRING HIM BACK TO LIFE!?

YOU WON'T FIND IT IN ANY TEXT, BUT FOR PEOPLE WHO'VE JUST DIED... A BECKONING FROM A FAMILY MEMBER MAY BE THE ONLY WAY.



SHUMIRA, WHEN I GIVE THE SIGNAL...

\*THE HORMONE ACETYLCHOLINE IS RELEASED AND HYDROLYZED DURING NERVE CONDUCTION, CAUSING MUSCLE ACTION BY TRANSMITTING NERVE IMPULSES ACROSS SYNAPSES.







HA, HA,  
HA, HA,  
HA, HA...  
BEHOLD  
THE  
CHAMPION  
OF  
MOTOR-  
BALL--

--NOW  
AND  
FOREVER  
!





JASHUGAN  
HAS RETURNED!  
THE CHAMPION  
HAS MADE A  
COMPLETE  
COMEBACK...  
AND THE CROWD  
GOES WILD!

BOOSH



PHEW...  
I WAS  
WORRIED  
THERE...

KASH KLAASH

WAA  
AAH!



THE EMPEROR  
INSTANTLY  
ANNIHILATES  
TWO OF HIS  
OPPONENTS  
AND BEARS  
DOWN ON THE  
BALLKEEPER,  
NO. 6...  
KARASHNIKOFF!

SKANG

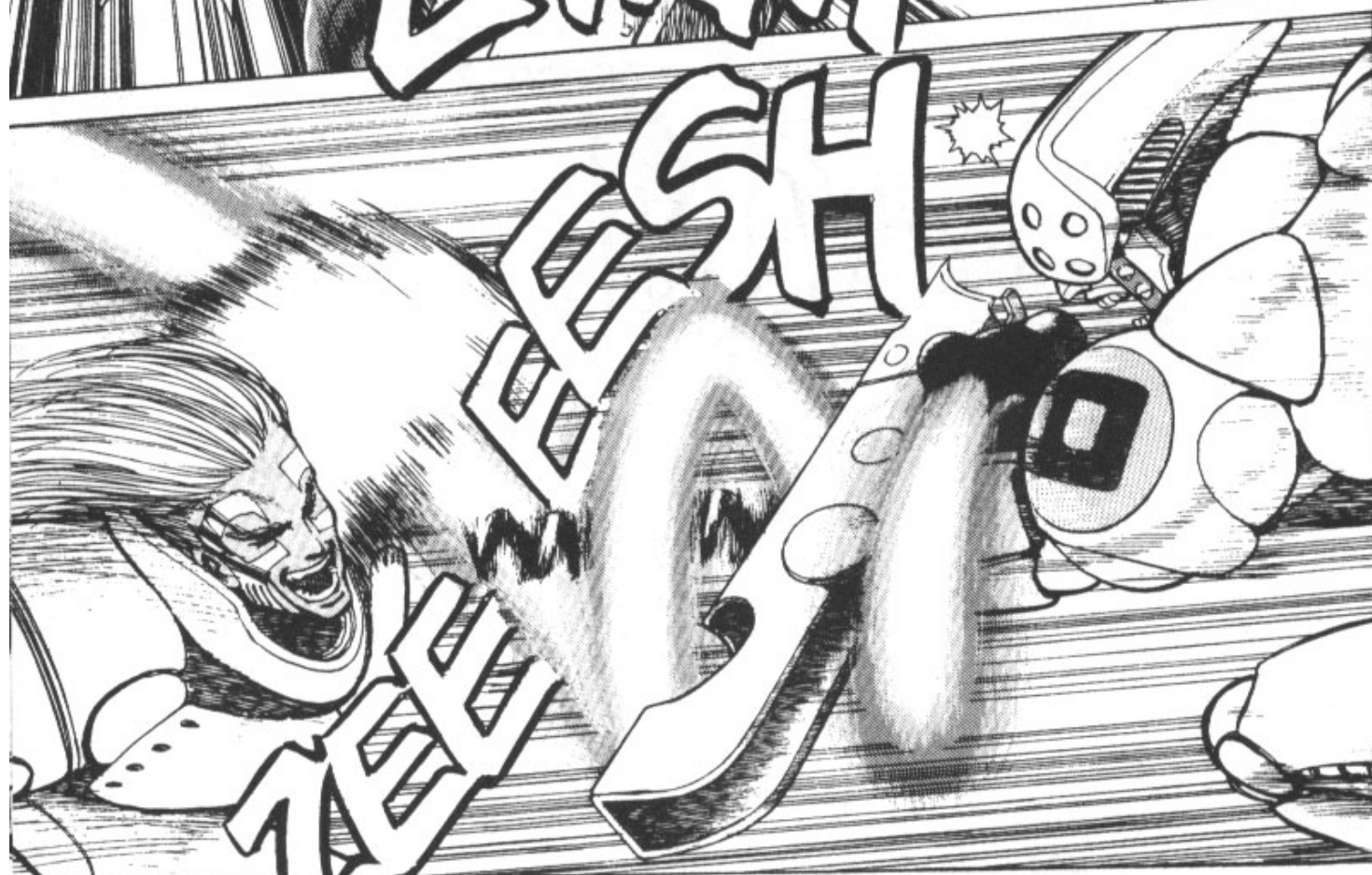
OKAY,  
CHAMP!  
I'LL  
TAKE  
YOU  
ON!



PLEASE,  
GOD...

SKASH





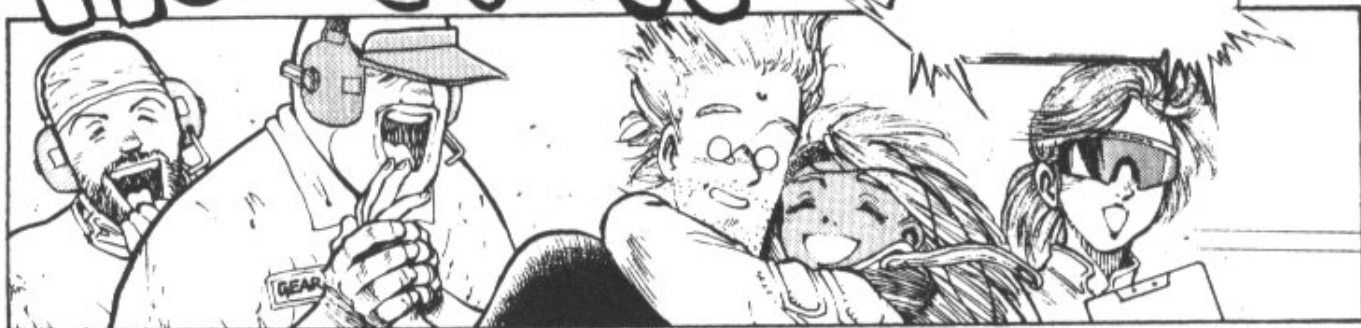


MASCHINE  
KLATSCH...  
MODE 89B  
SIDEWINDER...  
THIS BALL  
IS MINE!

A large, stylized character with a mechanical head and a wide, toothy grin is shown in a celebratory pose. He is holding a large, dark, spherical object that resembles a bomb or a large ball. The background is filled with motion lines and small mechanical parts, suggesting a high-speed or industrial setting.

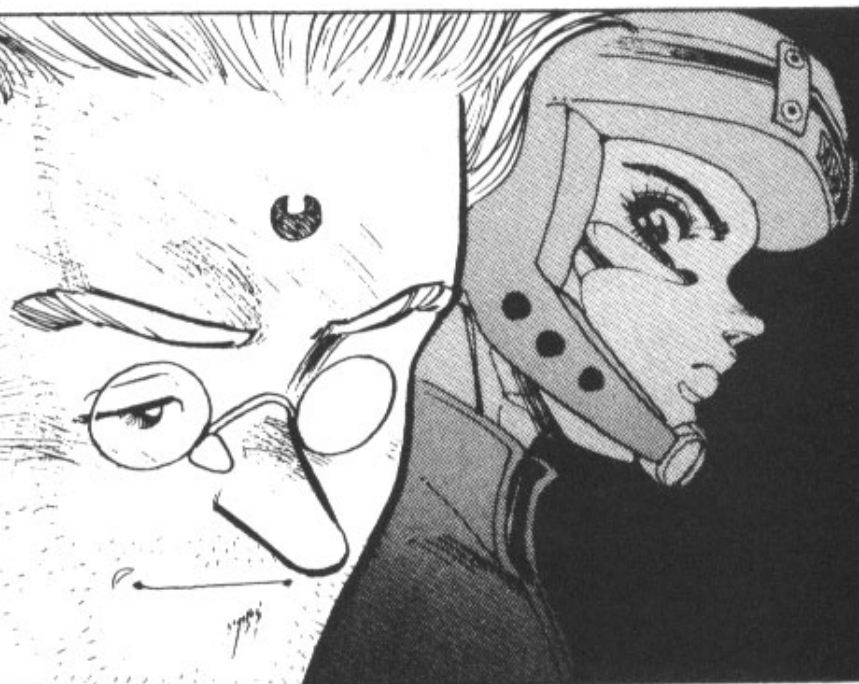
HOORAY!

NO. 6,  
KARASHNIKOFF,  
IS DAMAGED!  
JASHUGAN  
REMAINS THE  
CHAMP!



HEH,  
HEH...  
HE'S  
GOOD...

...WITH  
JASHUGAN  
IN MY DEBT,  
I CAN CRUSH  
ALITA'S PRIDE...  
AND MAKE  
HER MINE  
AGAIN...!





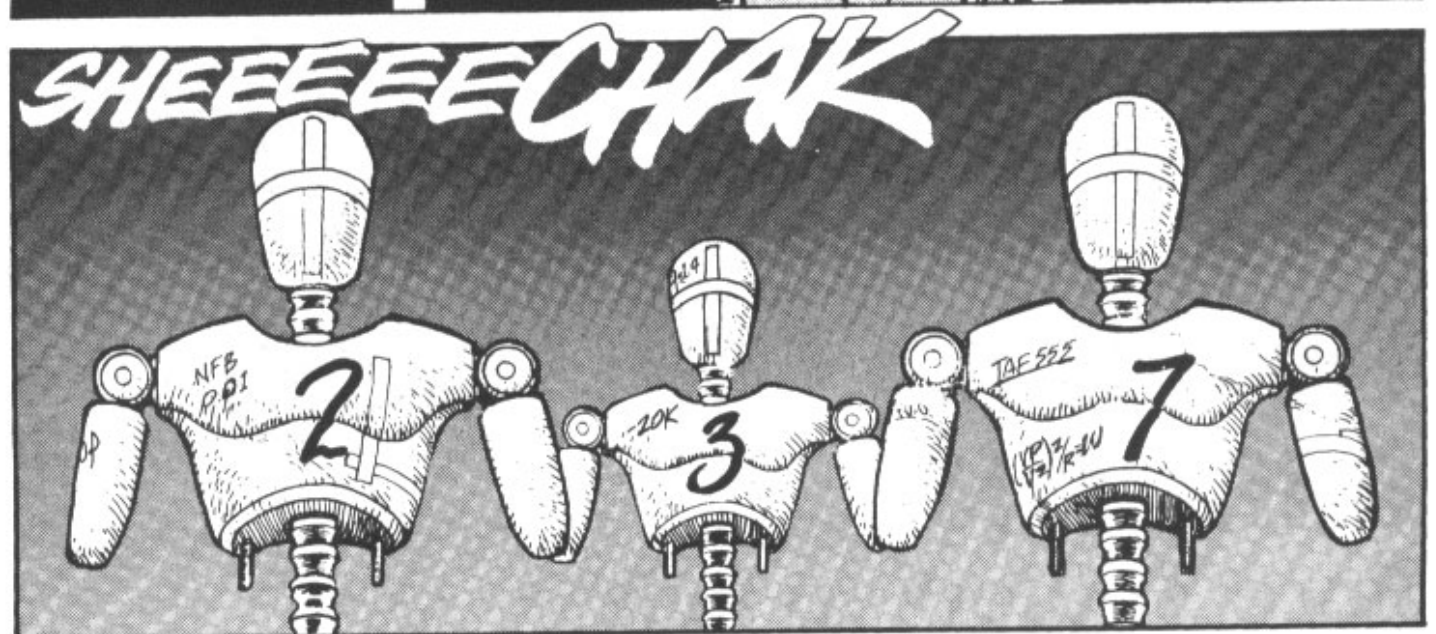




# **THE SKULL CHALLENGE: PART ONE**

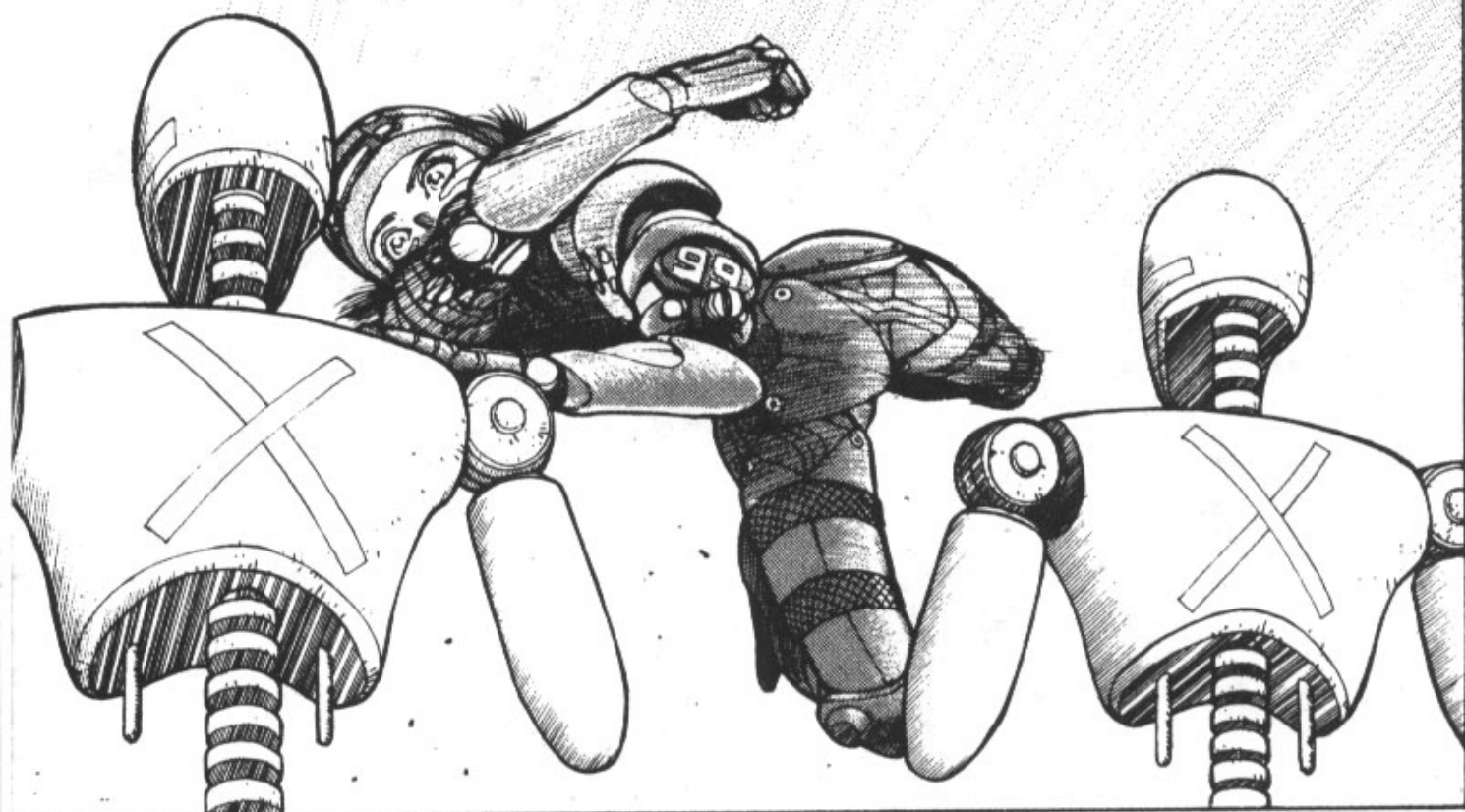
**Race 3: Work to Rule**

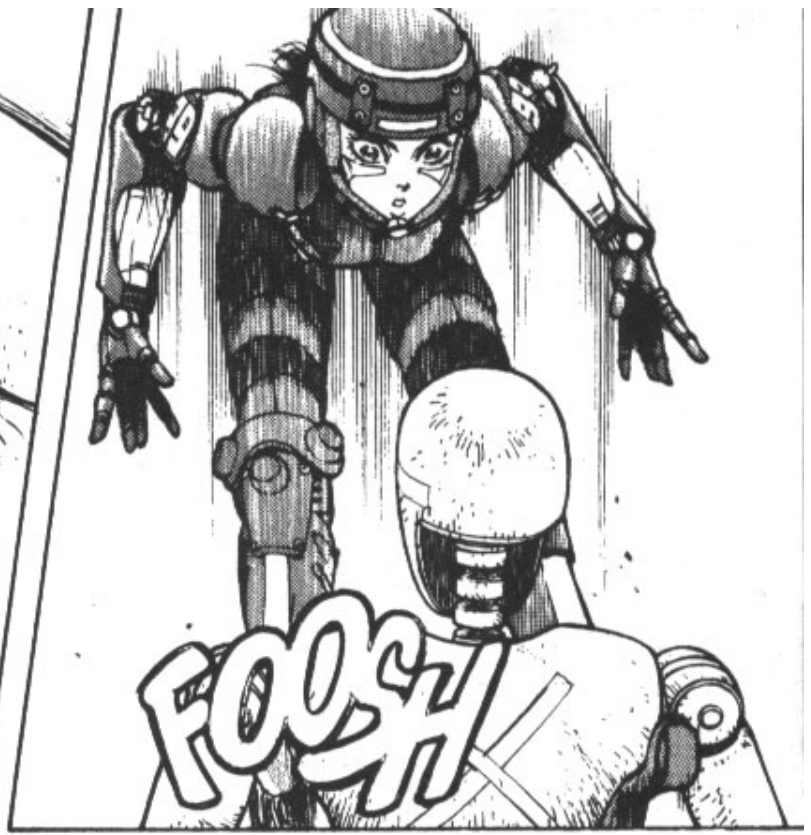




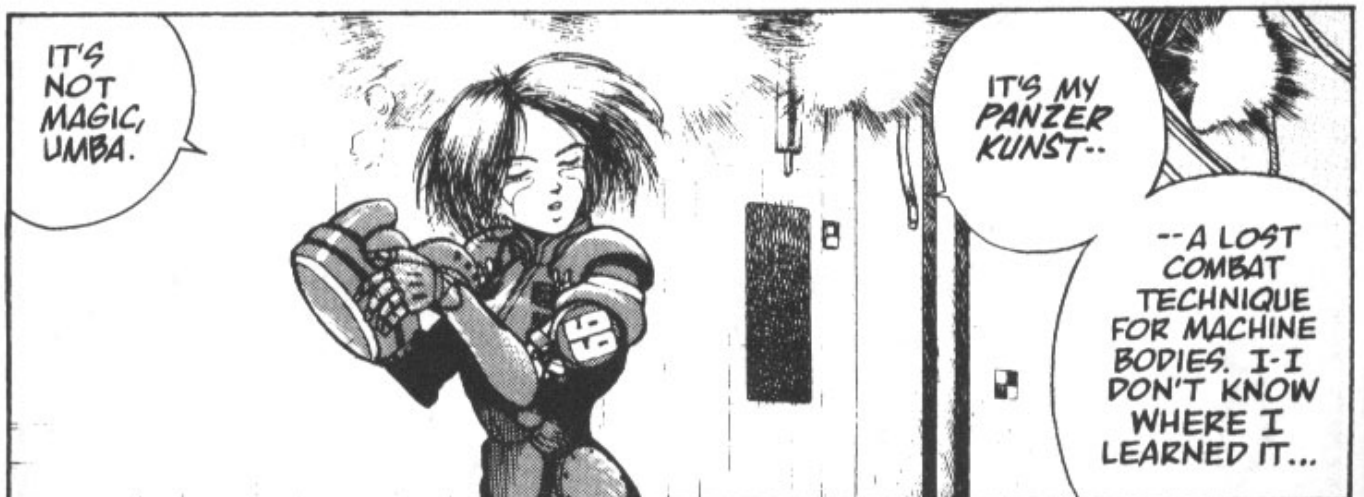












DUMMIES  
ONE AND  
TWO BOTH  
HAD THE  
FOURTH  
VERTEBRAE  
ACCURATELY  
DESTROYED...

...BUT THE  
DAMAGE ON  
NO. THREE  
IS STRANGE!  
THE *INTERNAL*  
TEMPERATURE  
OF THE DUMMY  
IS HIGHER  
THAN THE  
SURFACE...

MODEL=MDL 3  
TIME=7.6482

OBJEC

C-4

I USED A  
FREQUENCY  
BLAST...  
SOMETHING  
CALLED THE  
*HERTZA*  
HAEON...

...IT'S A STRIKE  
THAT'S DONE BY  
STORING AND  
DELIVERING A  
VIBRATION OVER  
100 HZ. EVEN AN  
OPPONENT WITH  
AN ARMORED  
SKULL CAN'T  
WITHSTAND IT.  
THE KINETIC  
ENERGY IS  
CONCENTRATED  
ON THE BRAIN,  
DESTROYING IT.

TH-THAT'S  
INCREDIBLE,  
ALITA!  
WHERE DID  
YOU LEARN  
SUCH A  
TECHNIQUE  
!?

I'M JUST  
NOT SURE,  
UMBA...  
I'VE NO  
MEMORY  
OF MY  
PAST.

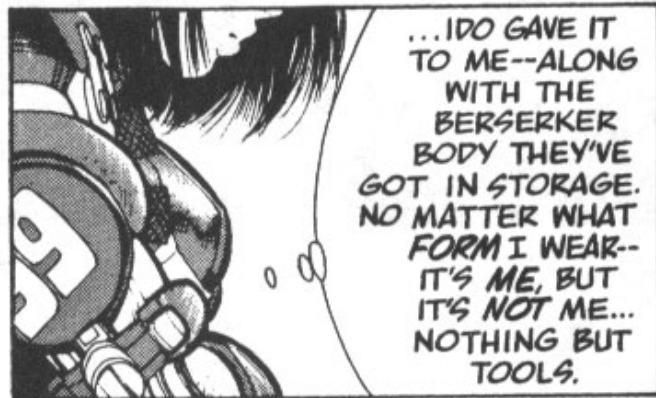
WHEN I'M  
ENGROSSED  
IN THE  
FIGHT  
AT THE  
CIRCUIT...

...SOMETIMES,  
FOR AN INSTANT,  
MY OLD  
MEMORIES COME  
FLOODING BACK...  
BUT I FORGET  
IT ALL AGAIN...





EVEN  
THE NAME  
ALITA...  
IT'S NOT  
MY  
**REAL**  
NAME...



...I DO GAVE IT  
TO ME--ALONG  
WITH THE  
BERSERKER  
BODY THEY'VE  
GOT IN STORAGE.  
NO MATTER WHAT  
FORM I WEAR--  
IT'S ME, BUT  
IT'S NOT ME...  
NOTHING BUT  
TOOLS.



JUST  
WHAT  
IS...

...THE  
REAL  
ME?



WHO IS IT  
THAT LOOKS  
THROUGH  
THESE  
EYES?

WHO IS THIS  
PERSON WITH A  
HEART SO EASILY  
WOUNDED...  
A MIND SO  
HAUGHTY... SO  
AFRAID...AND  
SO CRUEL...?

I'VE GOT TO  
KNOW...AND  
THE ONLY LEAD  
I HAVE TO  
FIND OUT  
WHO I AM...

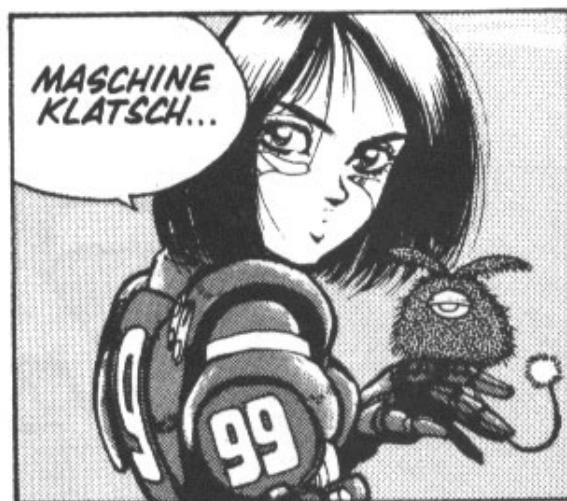
...IS MY  
PANZER  
KUNST.

TO REMEMBER  
THE TECHNIQUES  
I'VE LOST, I  
HAVE TO FIGHT--  
TO FIGHT!



CHAK







SECOND LEAGUE'S  
UNDERGROUND  
GYMNASIUM...

# SHEEEEEEASH

NO GIMMICK  
TRICK  
ONLY IT CAN  
ATTACK YOU ALL

4/4

WARNING  
ON SCHEDULE-ON  
CONTRACT COST  
WITH PERFORMANCE

OH!  
YOU'RE  
HERE  
!

THIS IS  
OUR TEAM'S  
SPONSOR, MR.  
THOMPSON OF  
THE TRENCH  
BLOOM WASTE  
RECLAMATION  
COMPANY.

CALL ME  
"TOMMY."

...SO  
LITTLE IN  
PERSON...

WE'VE GOT THE  
CONTRACTS SET,  
AND ALL THE  
CONDITIONS ARE  
MET FOR ALITA  
TO MOVE INTO  
THE SECOND  
LEAGUE. SO  
WHAT'S THE  
PROBLEM, ED?

SHEEEOO

WELL, ACTUALLY...  
IT'S ONLY A LITTLE  
PROBLEM--AS LONG  
AS ALITA DOESN'T  
GET STUBBORN  
ON US!

?

ALLOW  
ME TO  
EXPLAIN.

IN ANY  
ONE OF THE  
LEAGUES,  
THERE CAN  
BE ONLY ONE  
HUNDRED  
PLAYERS,  
NUMBERED  
FROM 0  
TO 99...



...SO WHEN  
NEW PLAYERS  
ENTER A LEAGUE  
THEY ARE  
USUALLY GIVEN  
THE NUMBERS  
OF PLAYERS  
THAT HAVE  
RETIRED OR  
DIED.

VOOM VOOM



CURRENTLY  
THERE ARE  
ABOUT TEN  
OPENINGS  
FOR THE  
SECOND  
LEAGUE,  
BUT...

I WON'T  
HAVE ANY  
NUMBER  
BUT 99  
!

SH BOOM

AND,  
UNFORTU-  
NATELY,  
THAT  
NUMBER'S  
TAKEN  
IN THE  
SECOND  
LEAGUE.

SO THE  
NUMBER 99  
HAS SOME  
SPECIAL  
MEANING  
TO YOU?

NOT  
REALLY...  
I JUST  
LIKE IT,  
THAT'S  
ALL.



BUT ONCE  
I **DECIDE**  
ON SOME-  
THING, I  
**NEVER**  
CHANGE  
MY MIND.

GET  
USED  
TO IT.





OH, NO!  
HOW  
STUBBORN  
CAN ONE  
GIRL  
GET!?

KNOWING HOW  
YOU MIGHT FEEL,  
WE TRIED TO  
PETITION THE  
PLAYER WITH  
THE NUMBER  
99-- BUT HE  
WAS VERY  
UPSET BY THE  
REQUEST.

UNLESS  
YOU  
CHANGE  
YOUR  
MIND...

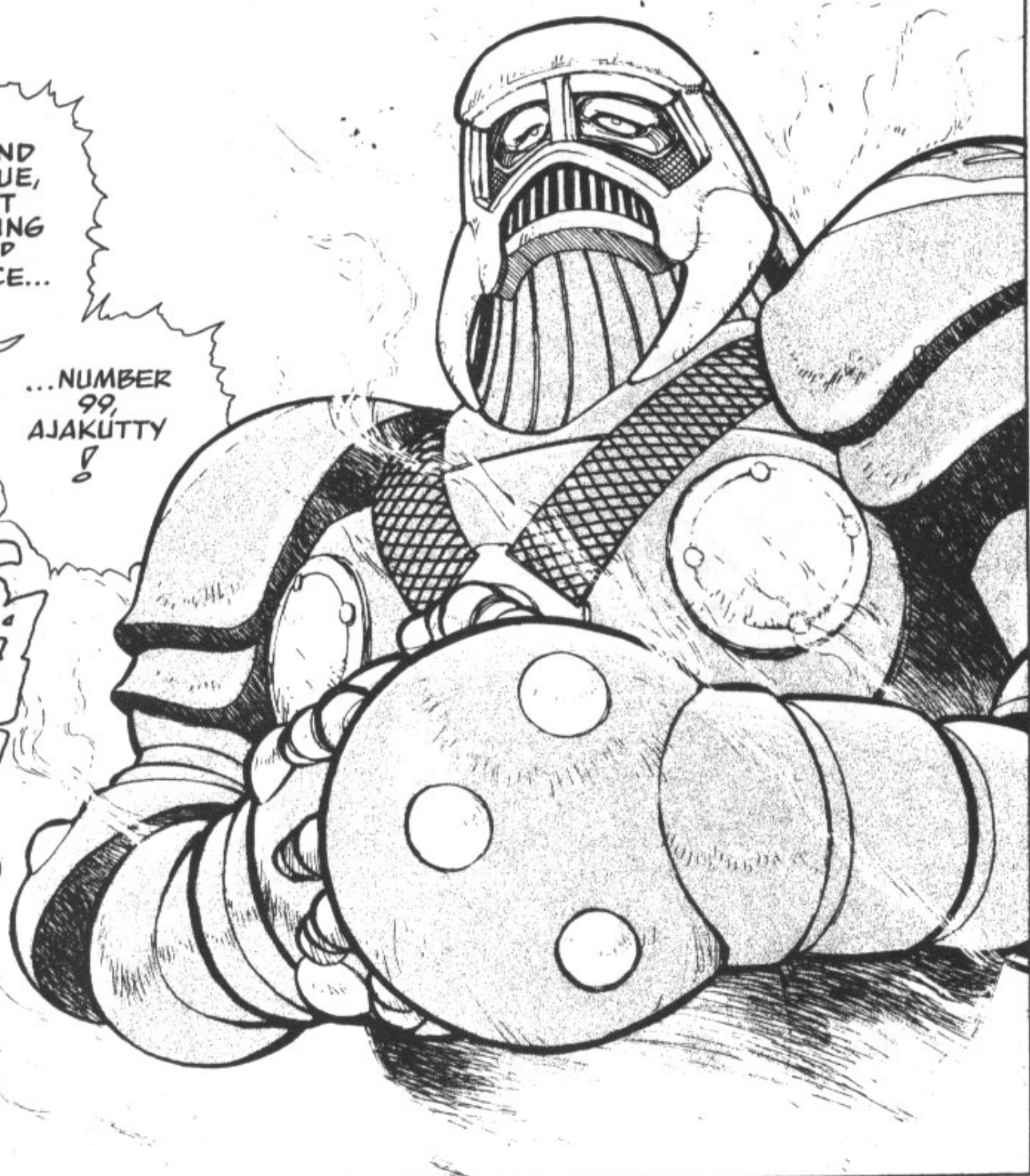
VVVVVVV

414

SCREEECHIK

...YOU'LL HAVE  
TO FIGHT HIM,  
ONE ON ONE, FOR  
THE NUMBER. IS  
THAT ALL RIGHT  
WITH YOU?

SHAAAA



SECOND  
LEAGUE,  
POINT  
RANKING  
23RD  
PLACE...

...NUMBER  
99,  
AJAKÜTTY  
!

SH  
A  
A  
A  
A  
A



SO, YOU'RE  
THE PUNK WHO  
WANTS TO WEAR  
MY NUMBER, HUH?  
COME BACK IN  
FOUR AND A HALF  
BILLION YEARS,  
YOU SNOT-NOSED  
BROAD!

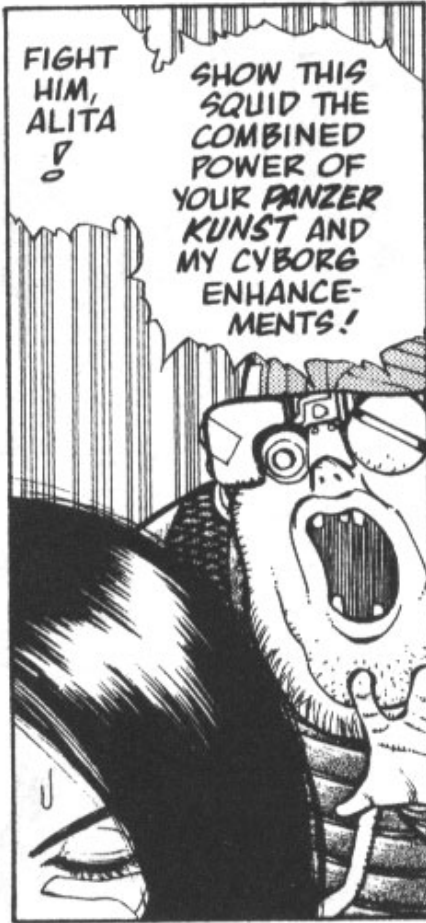
GA  
SH  
AK  
K





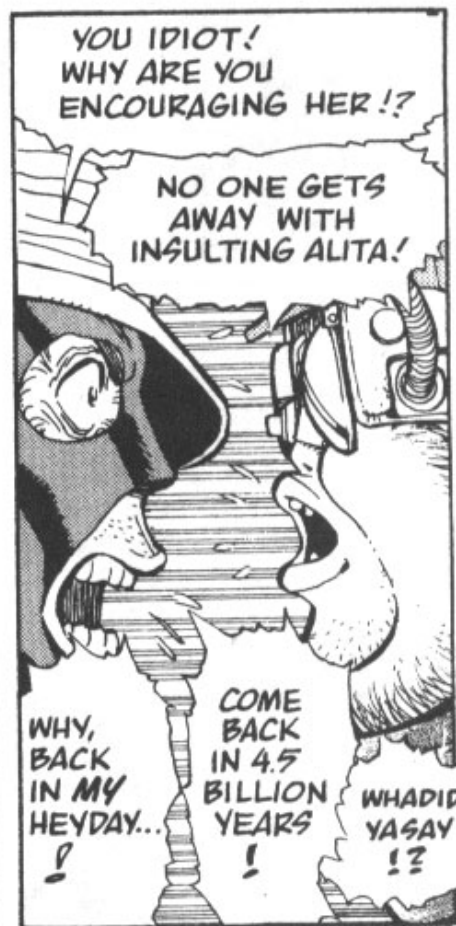
DON'T LET HIM PROVOKE YOU, ALITA!

THERE'S NO NEED TO RUN A GAME WITH ALL RISK AND NO PROFIT!



FIGHT HIM, ALITA!

SHOW THIS SQUID THE COMBINED POWER OF YOUR PANZER KUNST AND MY CYBORG ENHANCEMENTS!



YOU IDIOT! WHY ARE YOU ENCOURAGING HER!?

NO ONE GETS AWAY WITH INSULTING ALITA!

WHY, BACK IN MY HEYDAY...

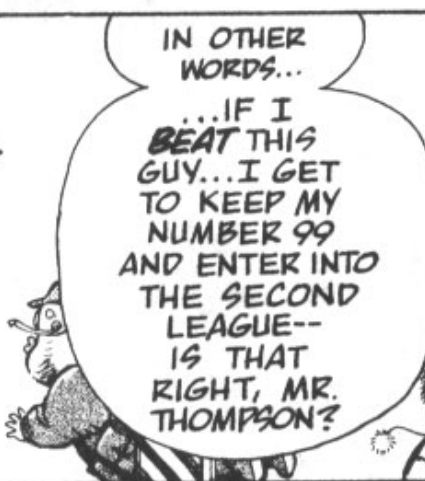
COME BACK IN 4.5 BILLION YEARS!

WHADID-YASAY!?



AAAGH! MY ARM!

MY MEDICATION!



IN OTHER WORDS...

...IF I BEAT THIS GUY...I GET TO KEEP MY NUMBER 99 AND ENTER INTO THE SECOND LEAGUE-- IS THAT RIGHT, MR. THOMPSON?



THAT'S CORRECT.

BUT CALL ME TOMMY...



YOU DARE, LITTLE ONE...?

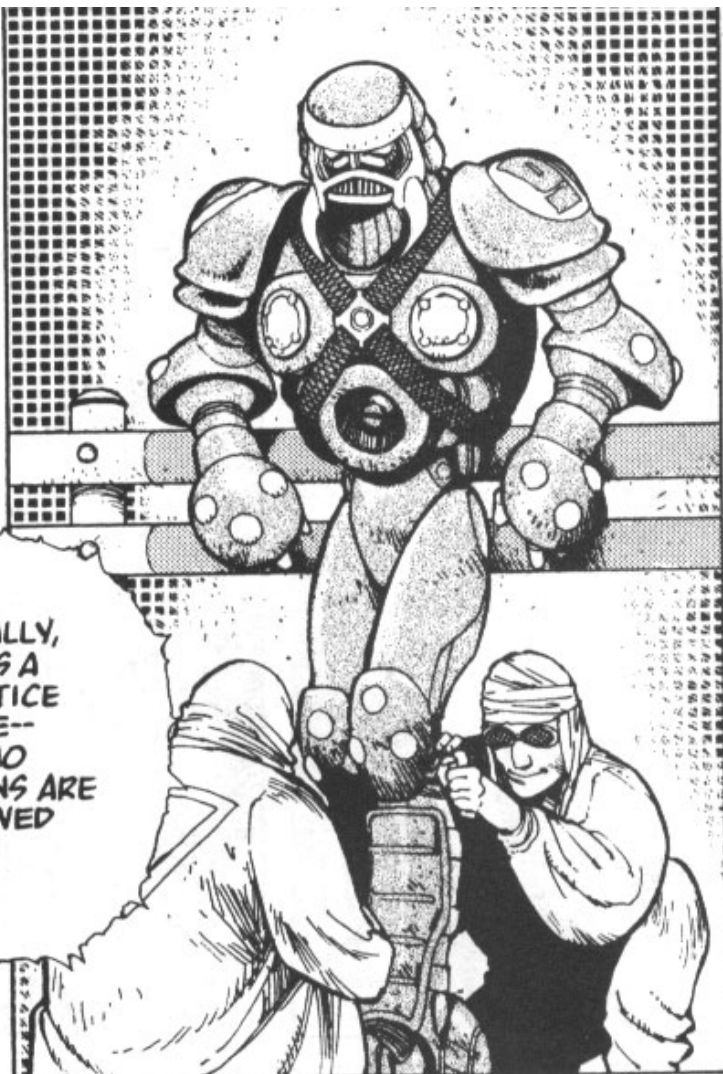
GAH!



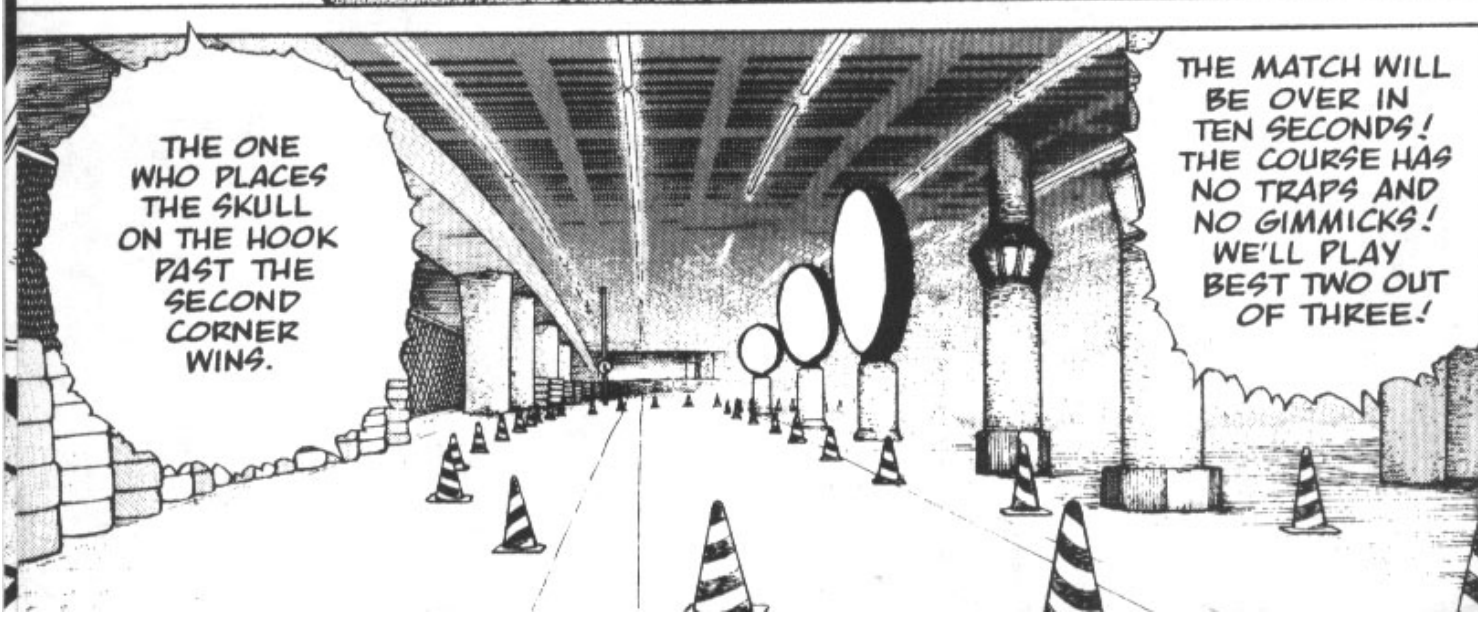
OF COURSE.



OFFICIALLY,  
THIS IS A  
PRACTICE  
GAME--  
SO NO  
WEAPONS ARE  
ALLOWED  
!



IN PLACE  
OF THE  
MOTORBALL,  
WE WILL  
USE THIS  
SKULL.



THE ONE  
WHO PLACES  
THE SKULL  
ON THE HOOK  
PAST THE  
SECOND  
CORNER  
WINS.

THE MATCH WILL  
BE OVER IN  
TEN SECONDS!  
THE COURSE HAS  
NO TRAPS AND  
NO GIMMICKS!  
WE'LL PLAY  
BEST TWO OUT  
OF THREE!





THAT  
SQUID  
WILL BE  
AN EASY  
OPPONENT  
FOR  
ALITA...  
HEH, HEH  
!

YOU  
THINK  
SO  
HUH...  
?

THAT  
AJAKUTTY'S  
GOOD...

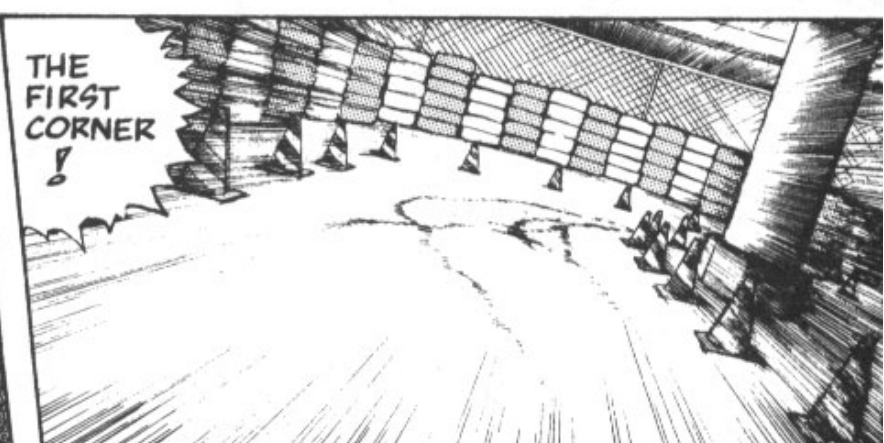
...THE ONLY  
REASON HIS  
AVERAGE IS  
SO LOW IS  
BECAUSE HE'S  
A FIGHTER  
TYPE---TENDS  
TO CHOOSE A  
BATTLE OVER  
THE WIN...

...OUR  
ALITA MAY  
HAVE A  
TOUGH  
TIME OUT  
THERE  
!

READY--!

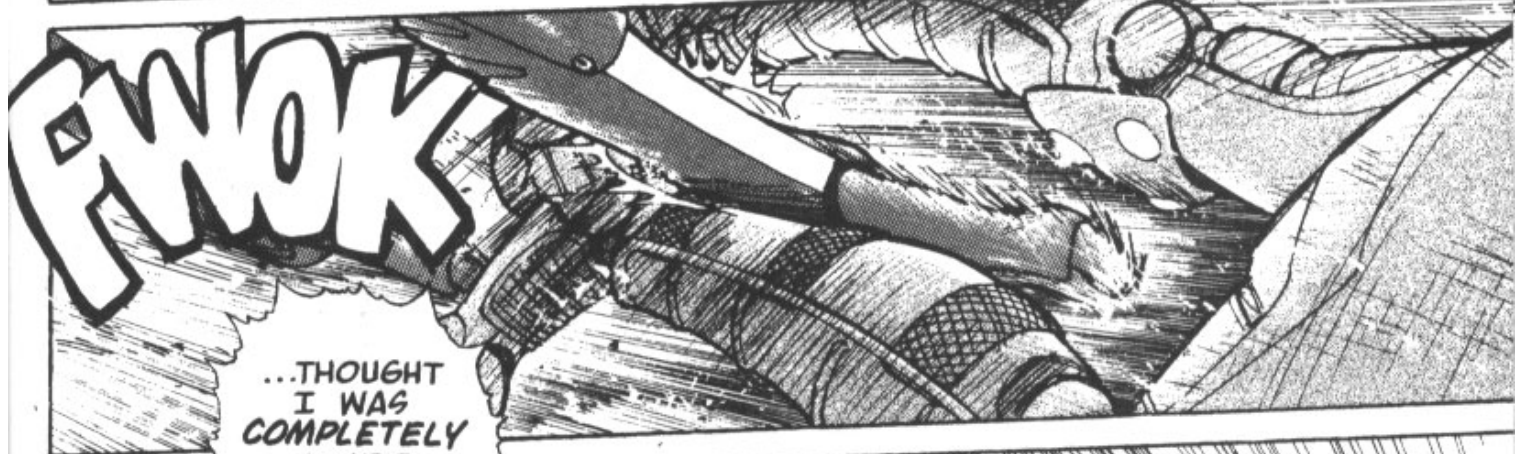


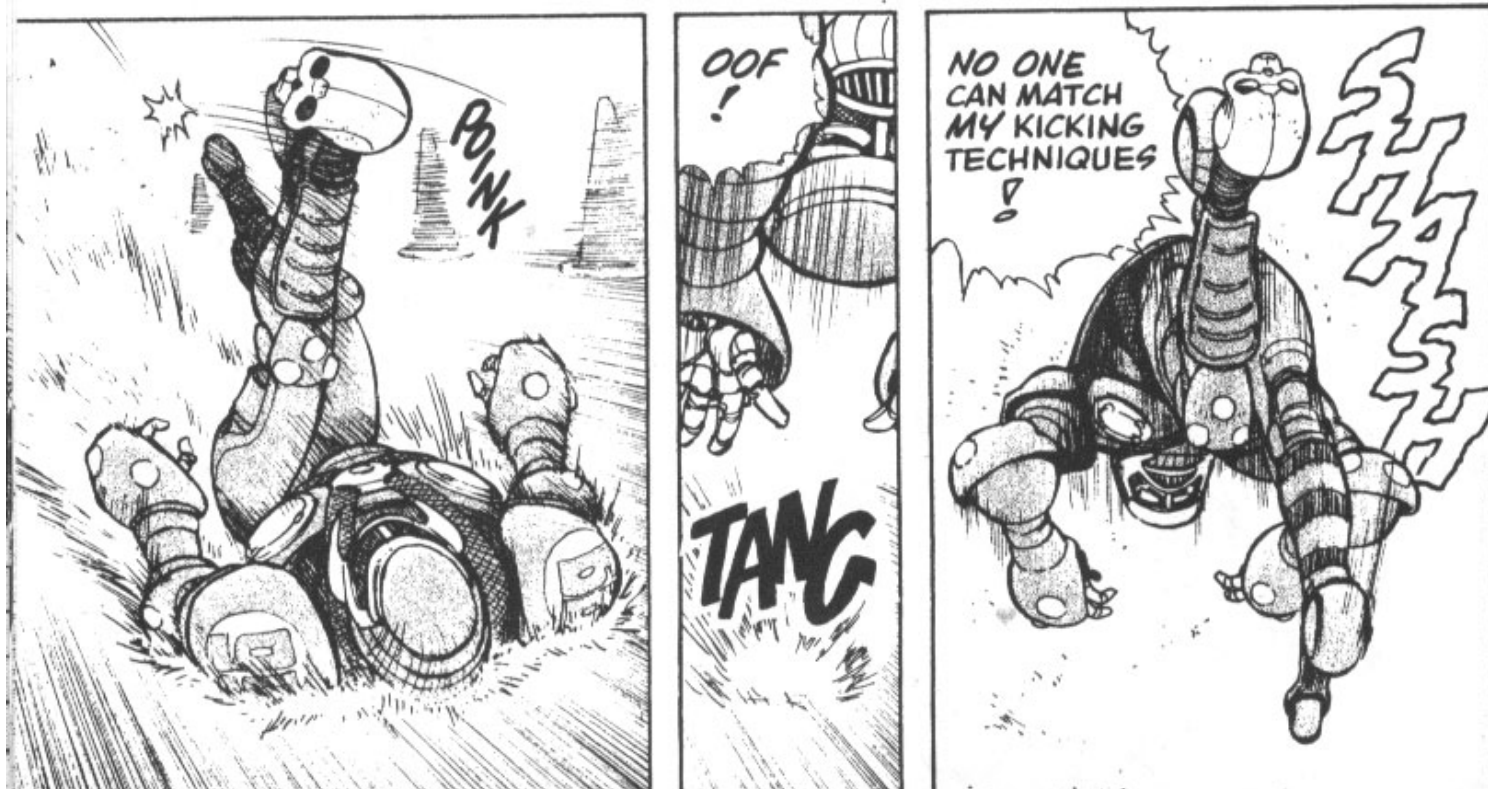




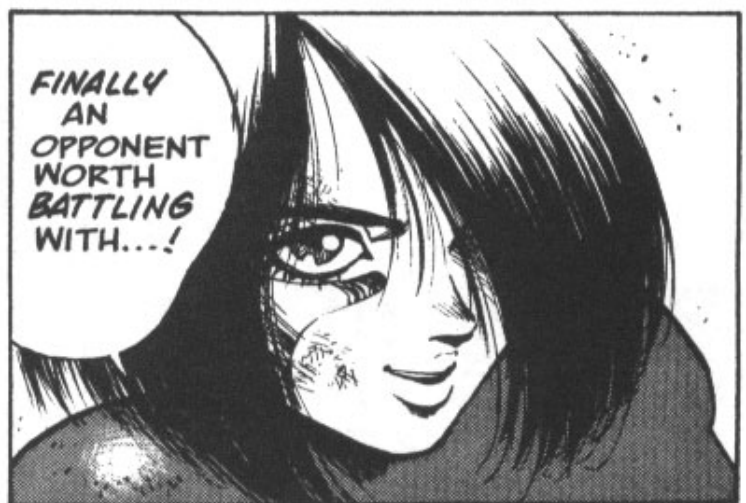
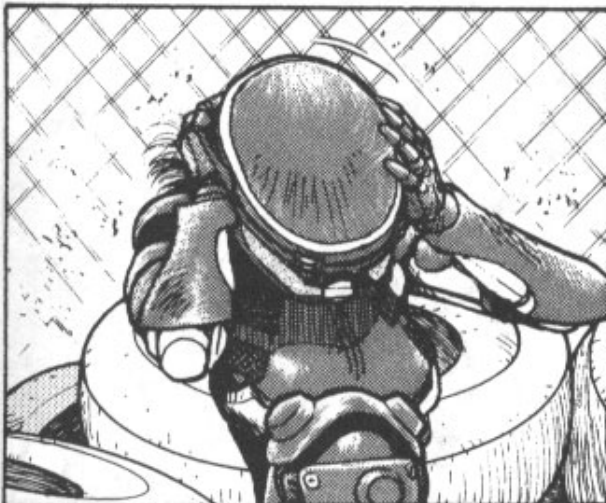
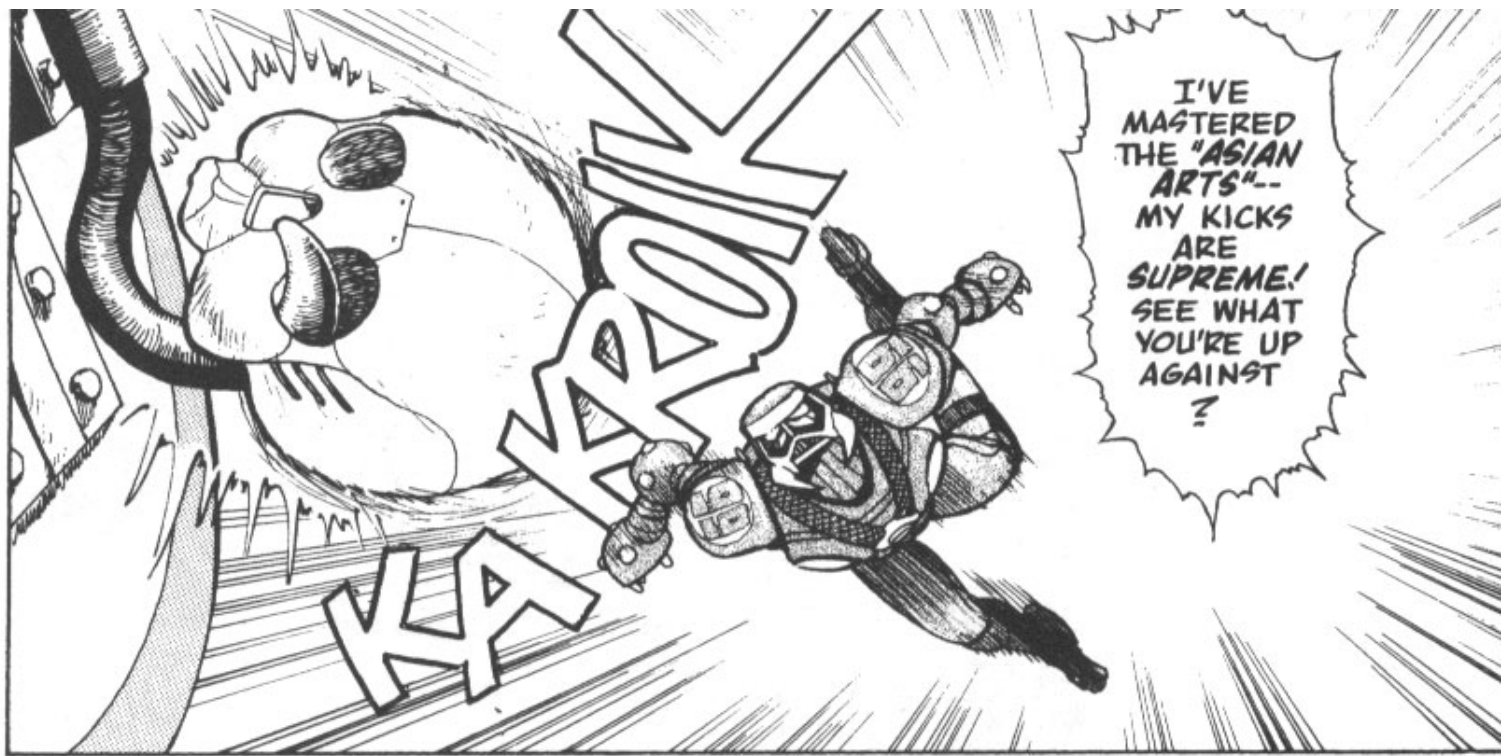




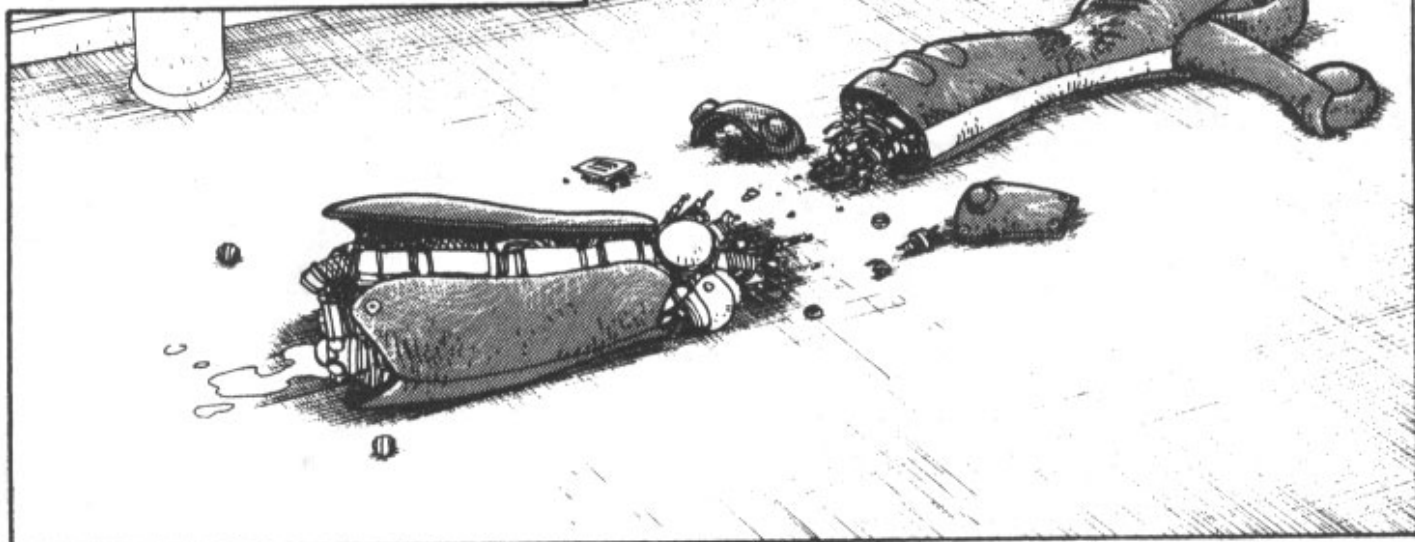








THE THREE-ROUND  
TOURNAMENT FOR THE  
NUMBER 99.  
ROUND ONE...AJAKUTTV  
TAKES THE SKULL!



THIS IS  
THE ONLY  
SPARE  
LEFT LEG  
WE'VE  
GOT IN  
STOCK,  
ALITA.

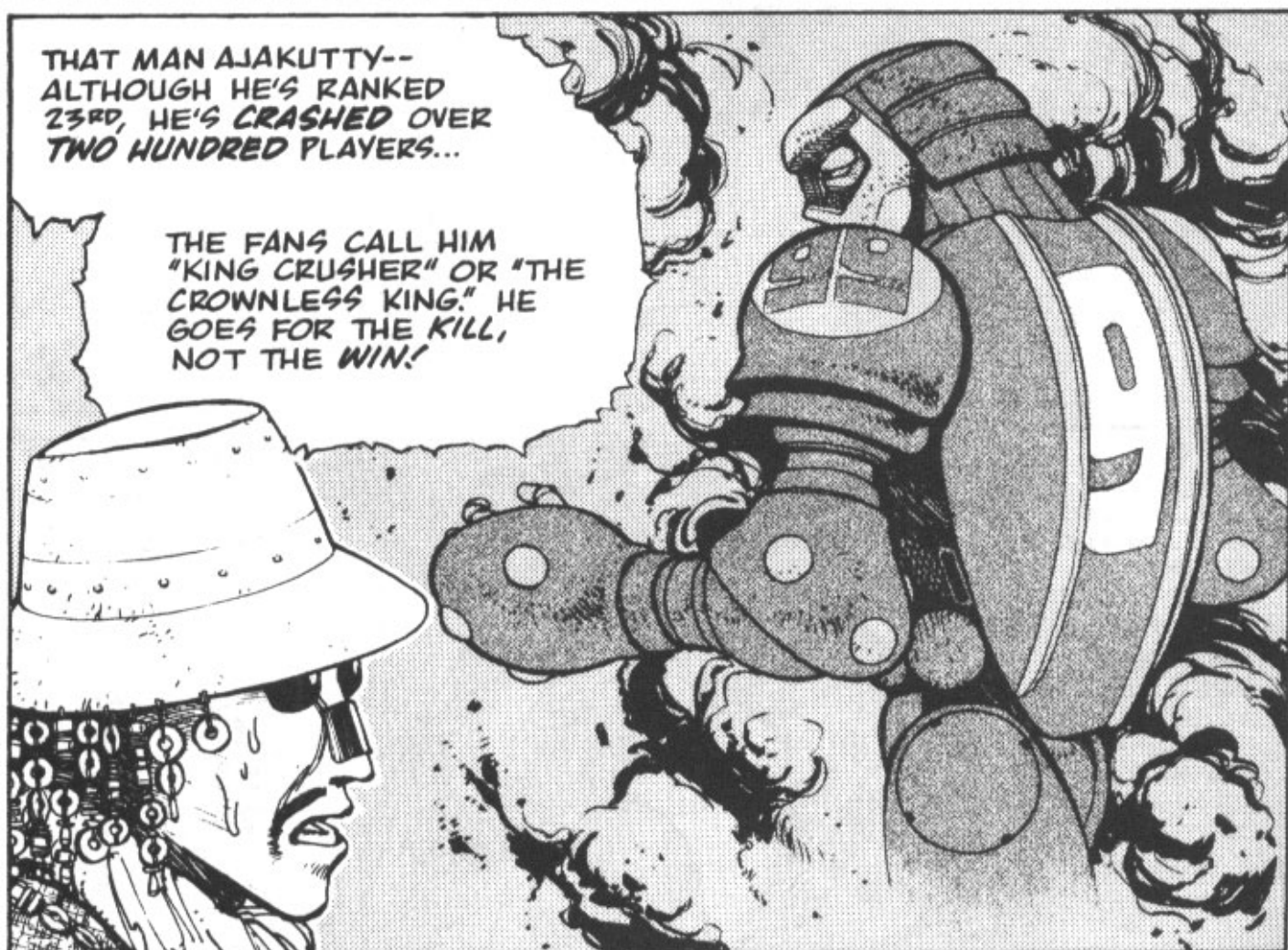
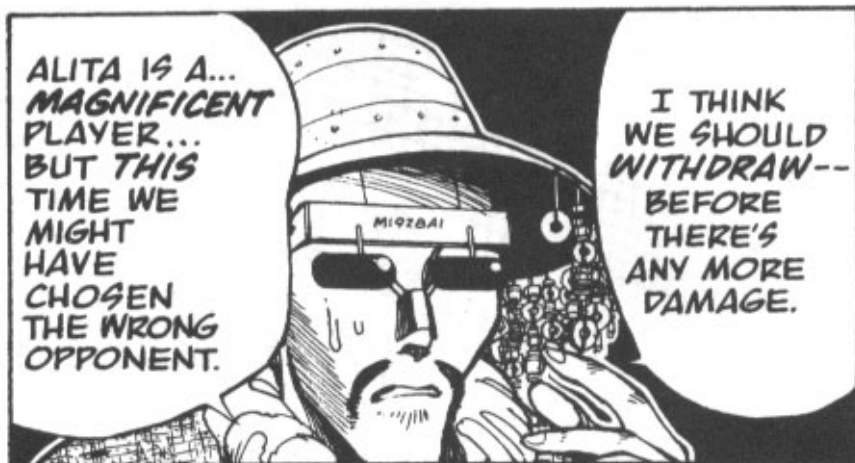


FINE!  
DON'T WORRY  
SO, UMBA! I  
JUST GOT A  
LITTLE CARE-  
LESS, THAT'S  
ALL!













SO  
YOU'RE  
TELLING  
US TO  
ADMIT  
DEFEAT  
?



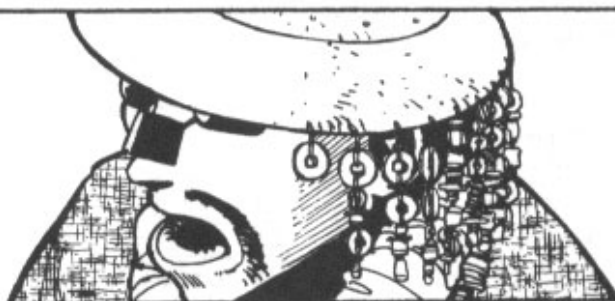
THIS BATTLE OVER  
THE NUMBER 99 IS  
JUST A **PERSONAL**  
THING. IT WON'T  
AFFECT ALITA'S  
**AVERAGE**. IT'S  
REGRETFUL, BUT...

I AGREE  
WITH YOU--  
IT'S A  
USELESS  
FIGHT,  
BUT...

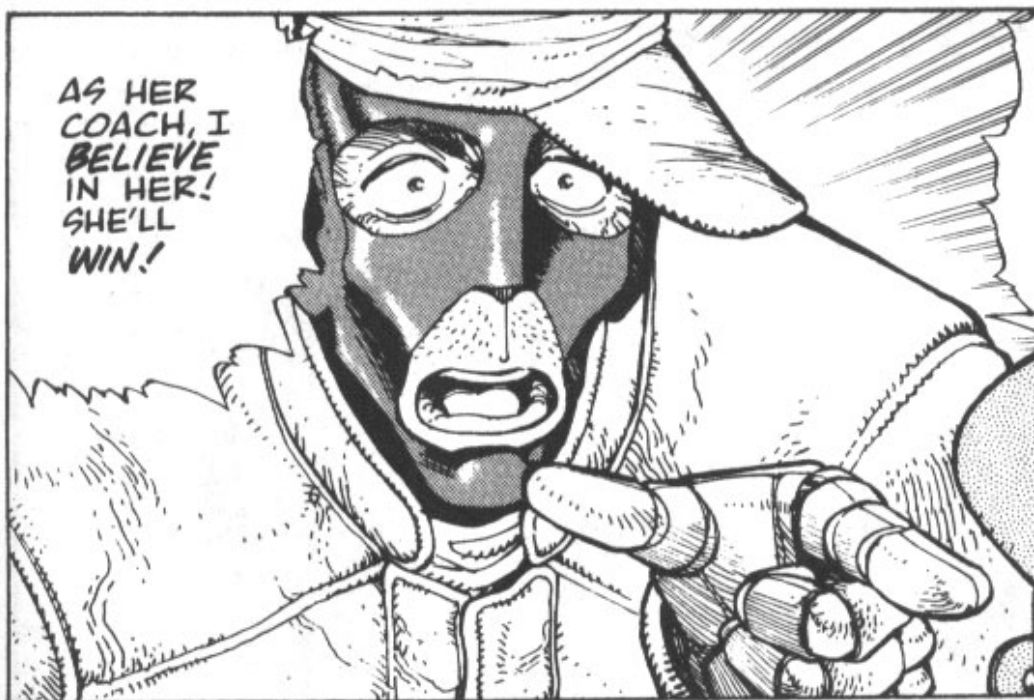


...NOW THAT  
SHE'S **STARTED**,  
I DON'T THINK  
I COULD STOP  
IT EVEN IF  
I WANTED  
TO!

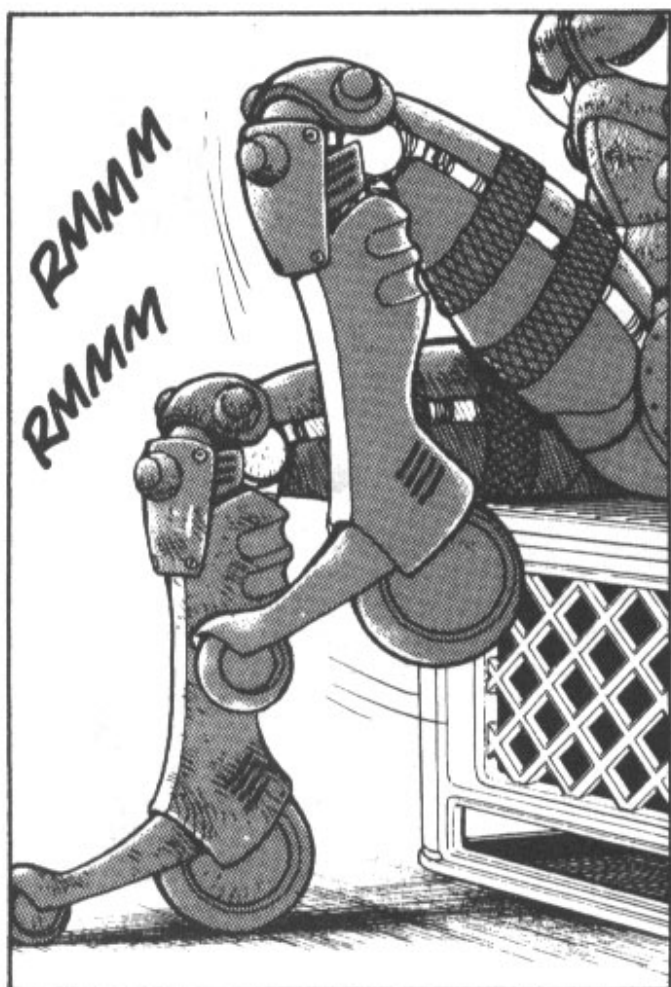
IF WE LET  
THIS GO ON,  
ALITA COULD BE  
**PERMANENTLY**  
DAMAGED!



AS HER  
COACH, I  
**BELIEVE**  
IN HER!  
SHE'LL  
WIN!



IF YOU'RE  
GOING TO  
BE HER  
**SPONSOR**,  
YOU'VE  
GOTTA  
**BELIEVE**  
IN HER AS  
WELL!



I DON'T  
KNOW--  
STILL  
FEELS A  
LITTLE  
STRANGE...

WELL, I'VE  
ALIGNED  
THE NEW  
LEG--BUT,  
IN SUCH  
A SHORT  
TIME,  
THERE ARE  
LIMITS  
TO WHAT  
I CAN  
DO.



YOUR  
COMPETITION  
BODY, IN  
ORDER TO  
GET BETTER  
FLEXIBILITY  
AND PERFORM-  
ANCE, HAS  
THREE TIMES  
THE NORMAL  
CHANNELS  
FOR THE  
ACTUATOR.

TO HAVE EXCHANGED  
ALL THOSE PARTS  
WOULD HAVE TAKEN  
MORE TIME... IF I  
HAD A HIGH-QUALITY  
SYNCHRONIZER, IT  
WOULD BE DIFFERENT...  
BUT, FOR NOW,  
ANY HARDWARE  
ADJUSTMENTS  
WILL BE YOUR  
OWN--  
ON THE FLY.



I'LL JUST  
HAVE TO  
MAKE DO...



YOU  
ALL SET,  
ALITA  
?



AS  
READY  
AS I'LL  
EVER  
BE...







ALL RIGHT--  
YA STILL GOT  
TWO MORE  
CHANCES! GO  
GET HIM!

PAFF



BUT IF I  
WRECK ANOTHER  
BODY, THE  
SPONSOR IS  
PULLING OUT,  
RIGHT?

WHA-  
?

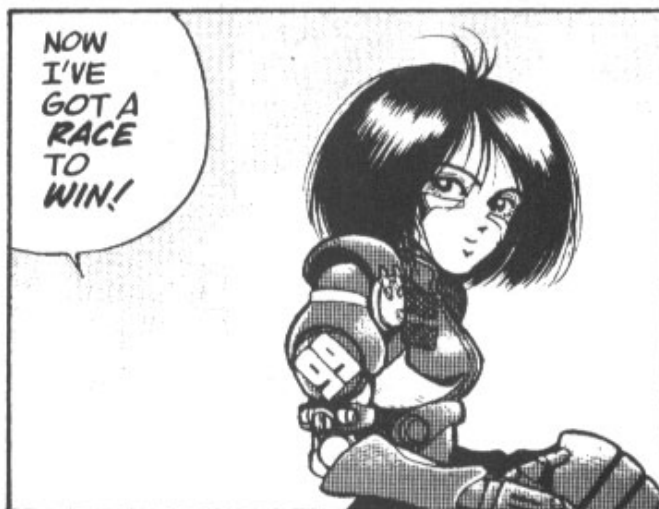
YOU  
HEARD  
US!?



YOU KNOW,  
YOU'RE A  
NICER  
PERSON  
THAN YOU  
LOOK...



...THANKS  
FOR  
BELIEVING  
IN ME,  
ED!



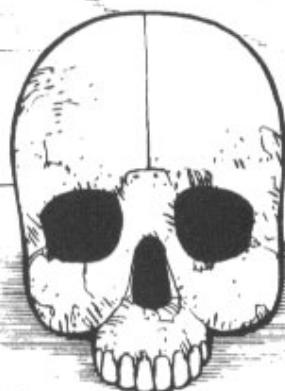
NOW  
I'VE  
GOT A  
RACE  
TO  
WIN!



HEH!  
I LOOK  
PRETTY  
NICE,  
TO  
BOOT!

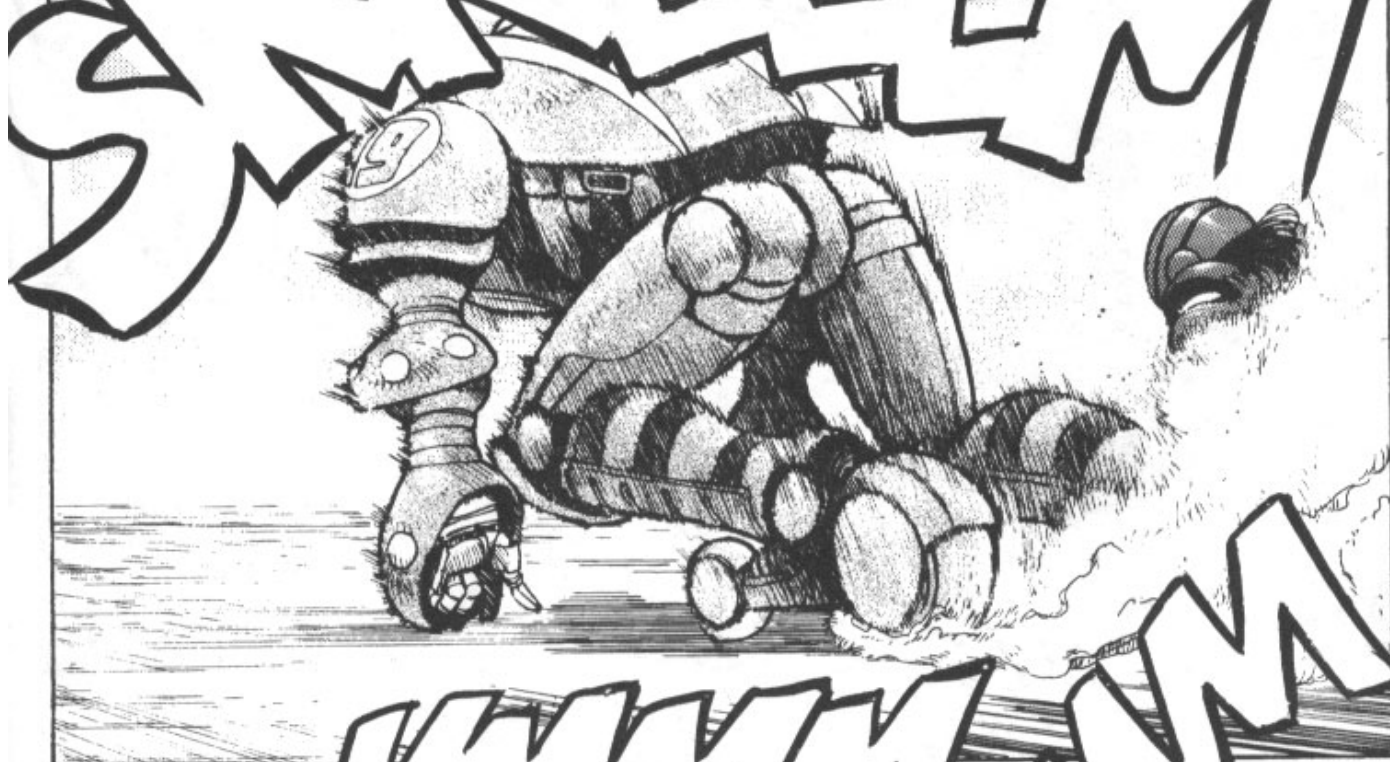
WELL!

SKULL  
CHALLENGE  
ROUND  
TWO





# FREEEM



# UUMMM

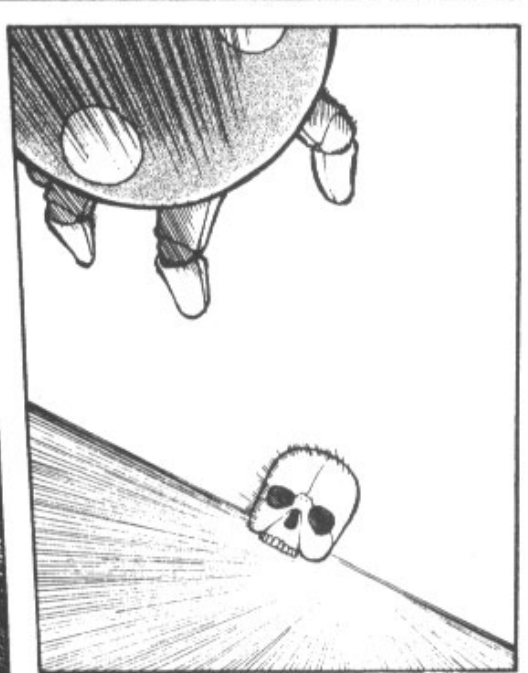
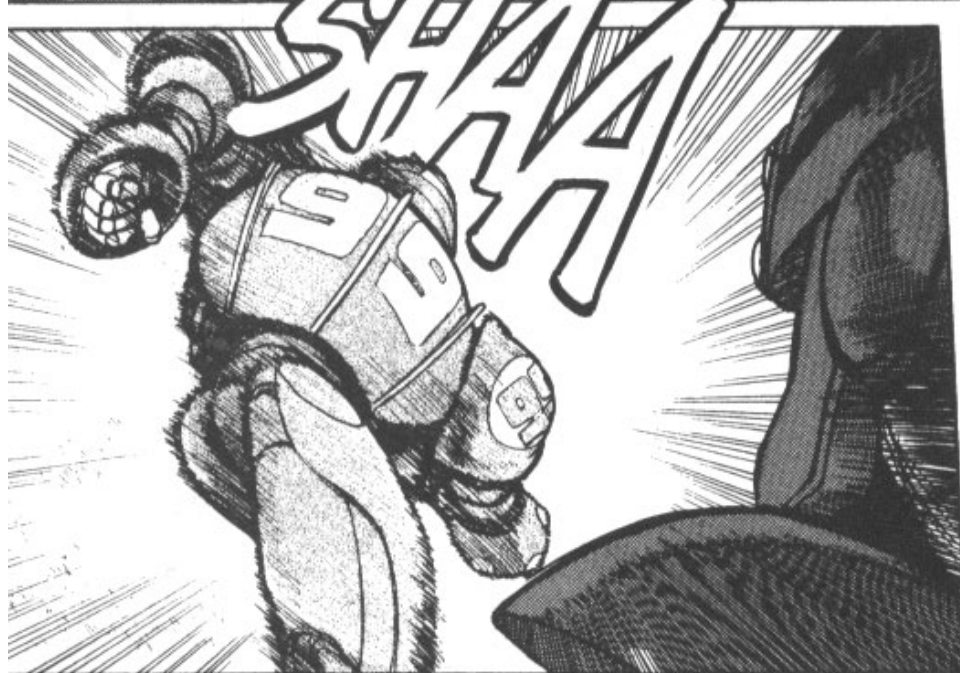
# VRRRR

THERE'S NOT  
GOING TO BE  
A THIRD  
ROUND, YA  
UPSTART!  
YOU'RE  
SCRAP--  
HERE AND  
NOW!

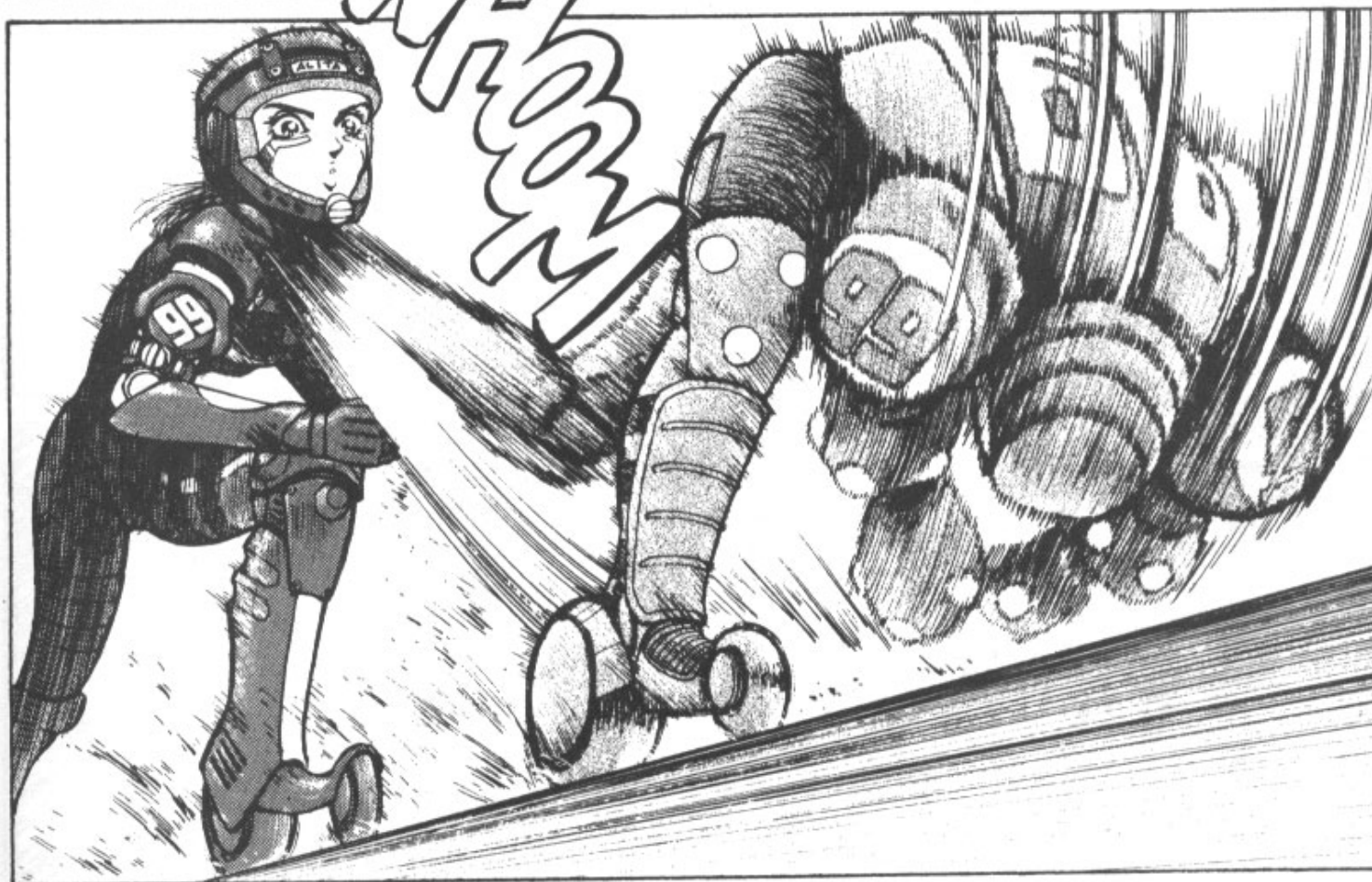
## READY!

## GO!

# FOOFY

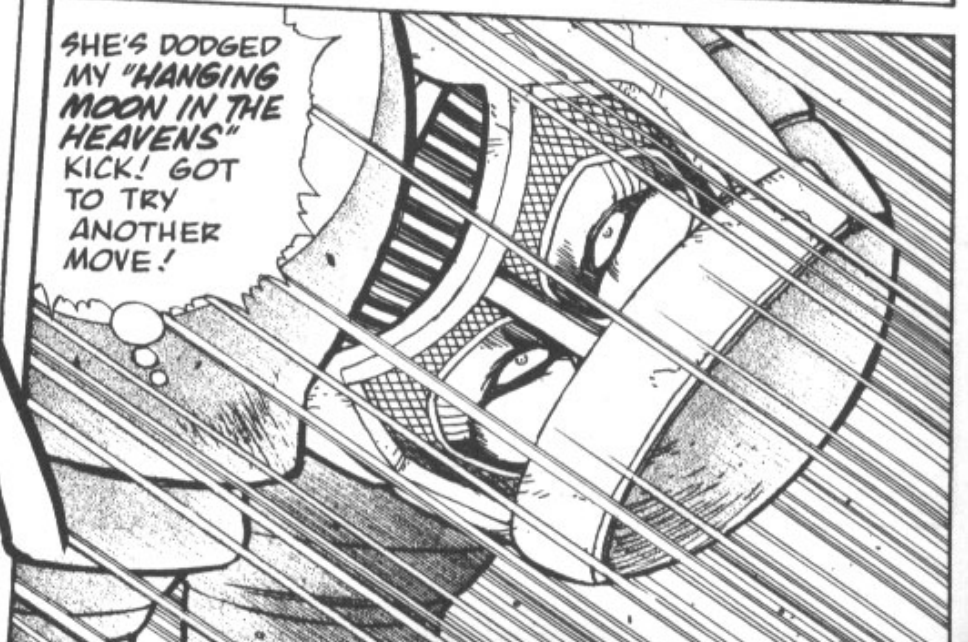






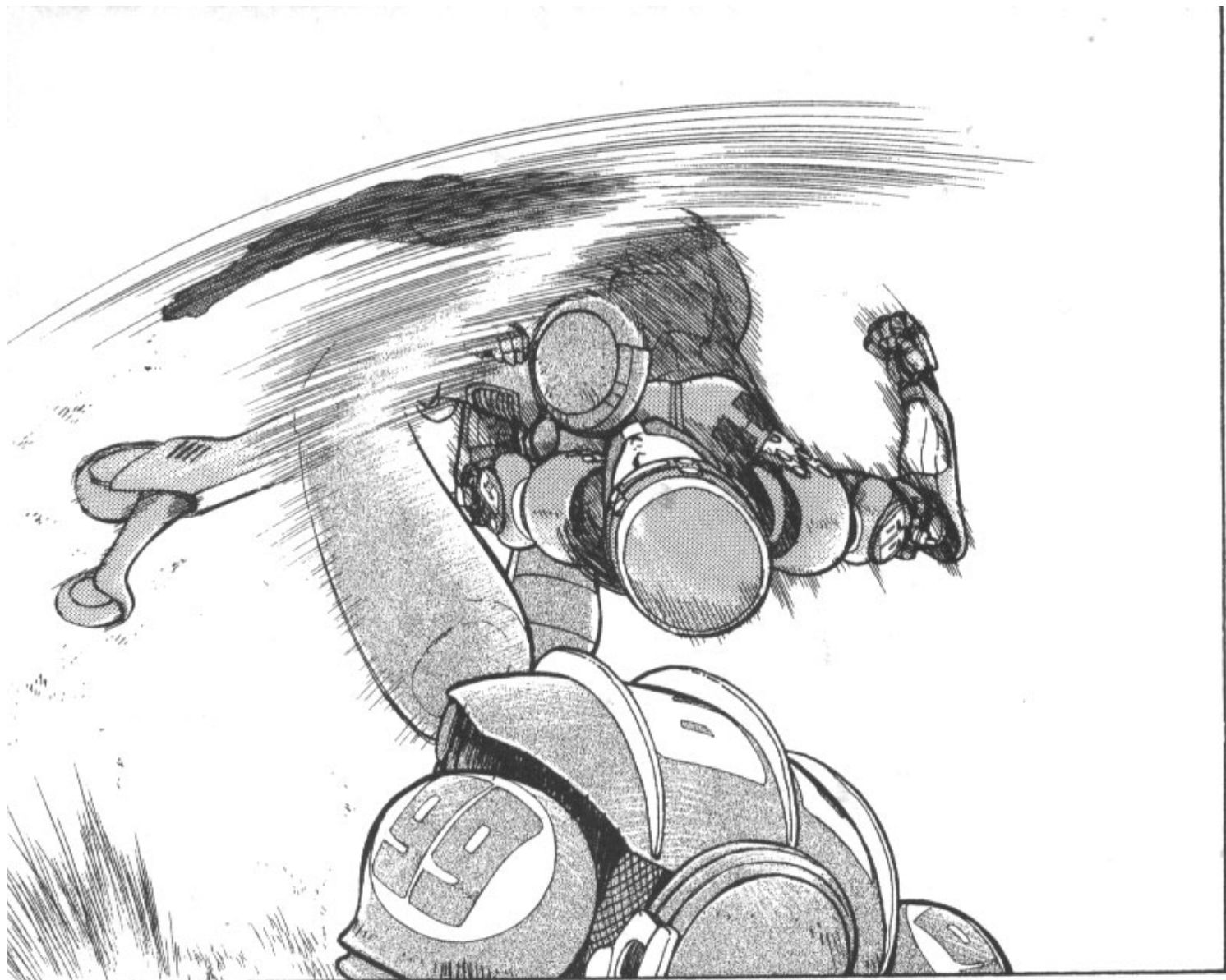


SHE'S DODGED  
MY "HANGING  
MOON IN THE  
HEAVENS"  
KICK! GOT  
TO TRY  
ANOTHER  
MOVE!

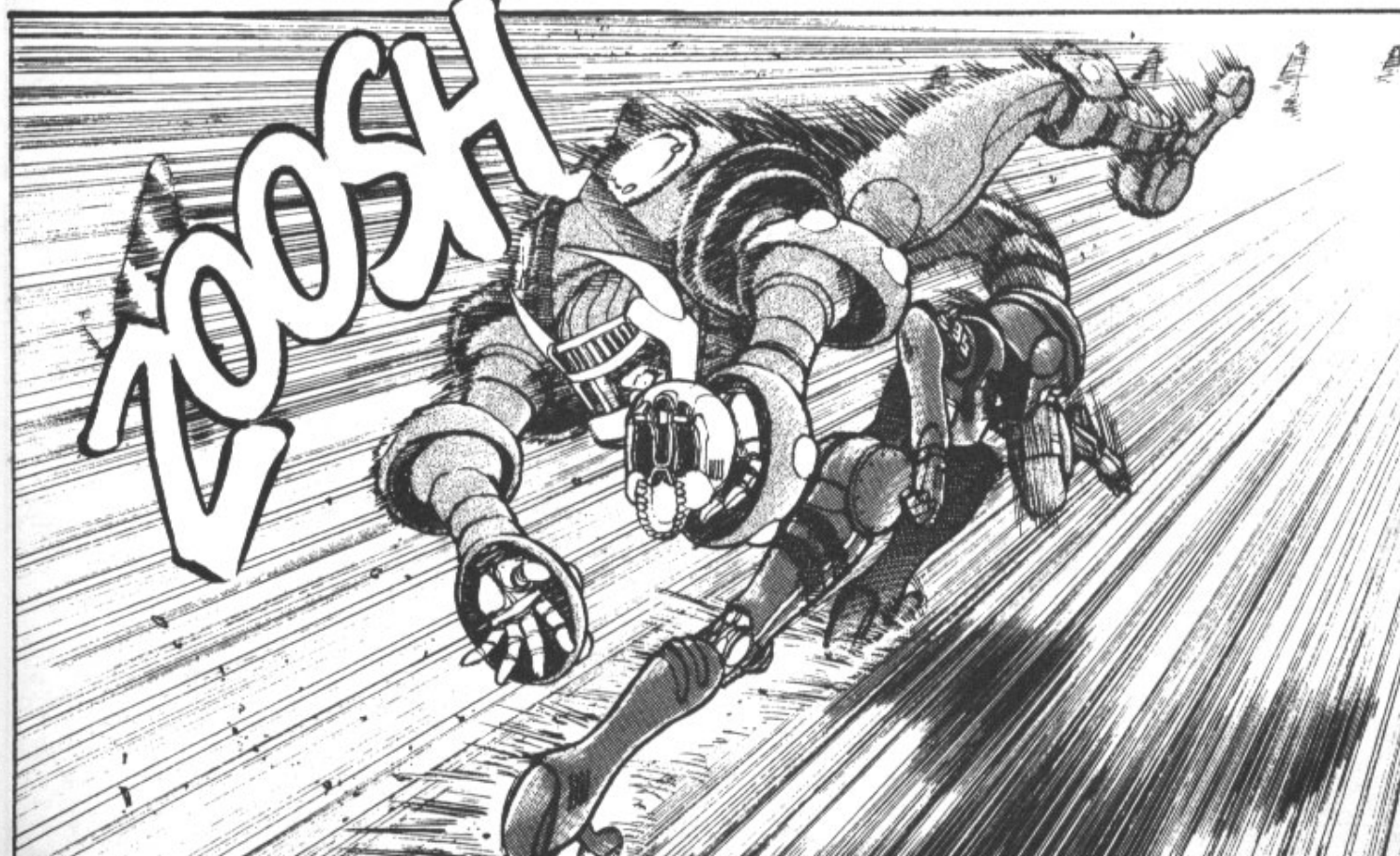
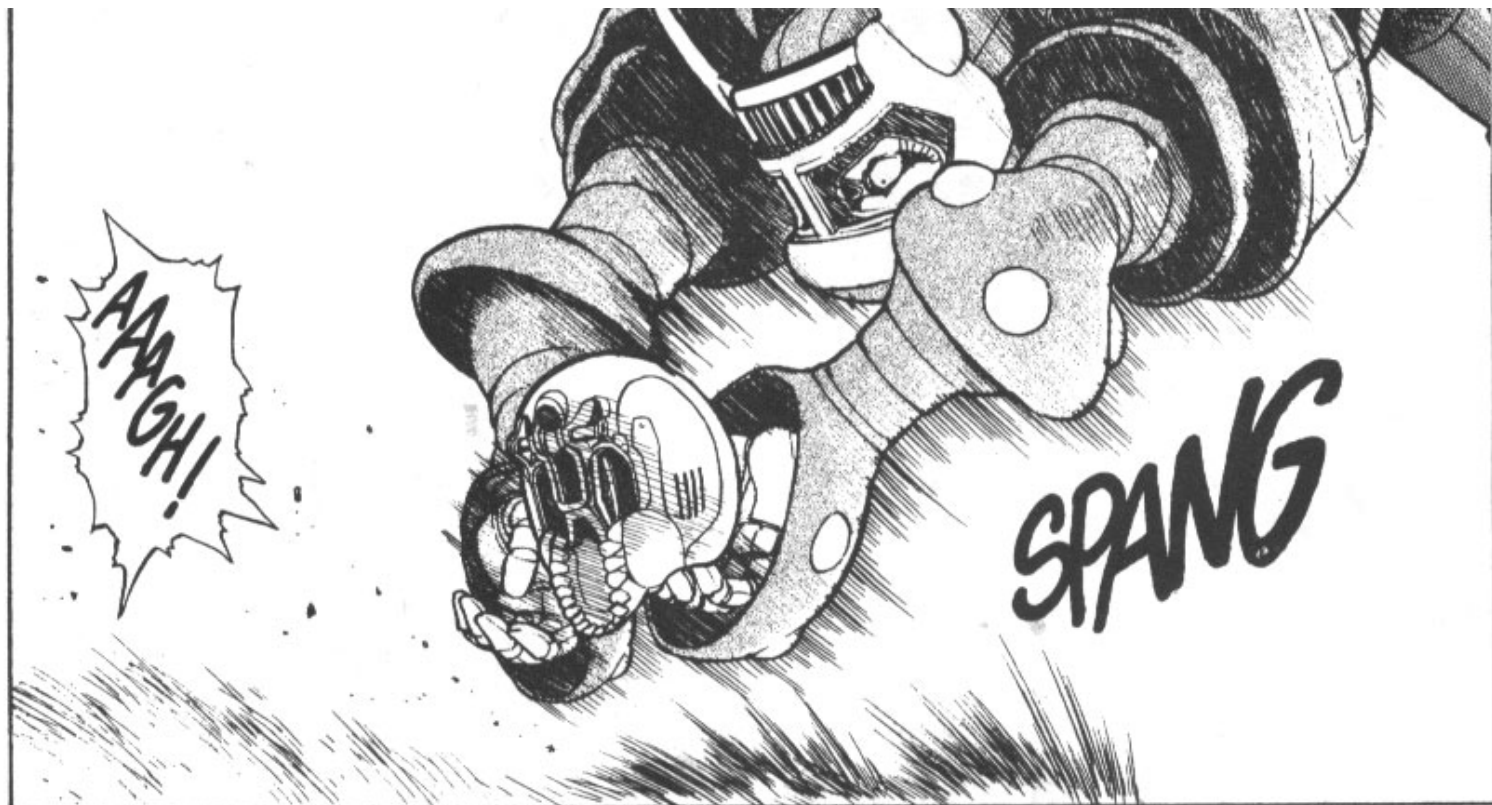


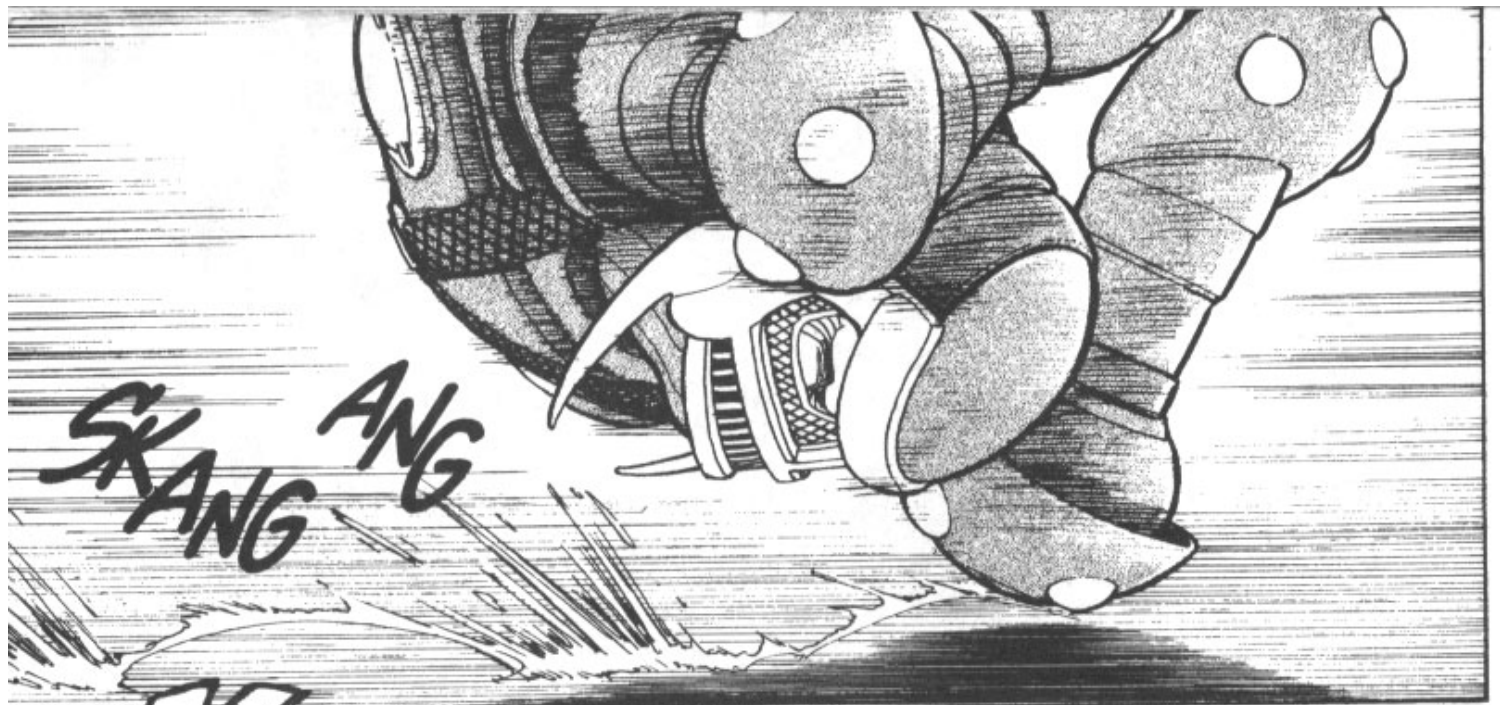




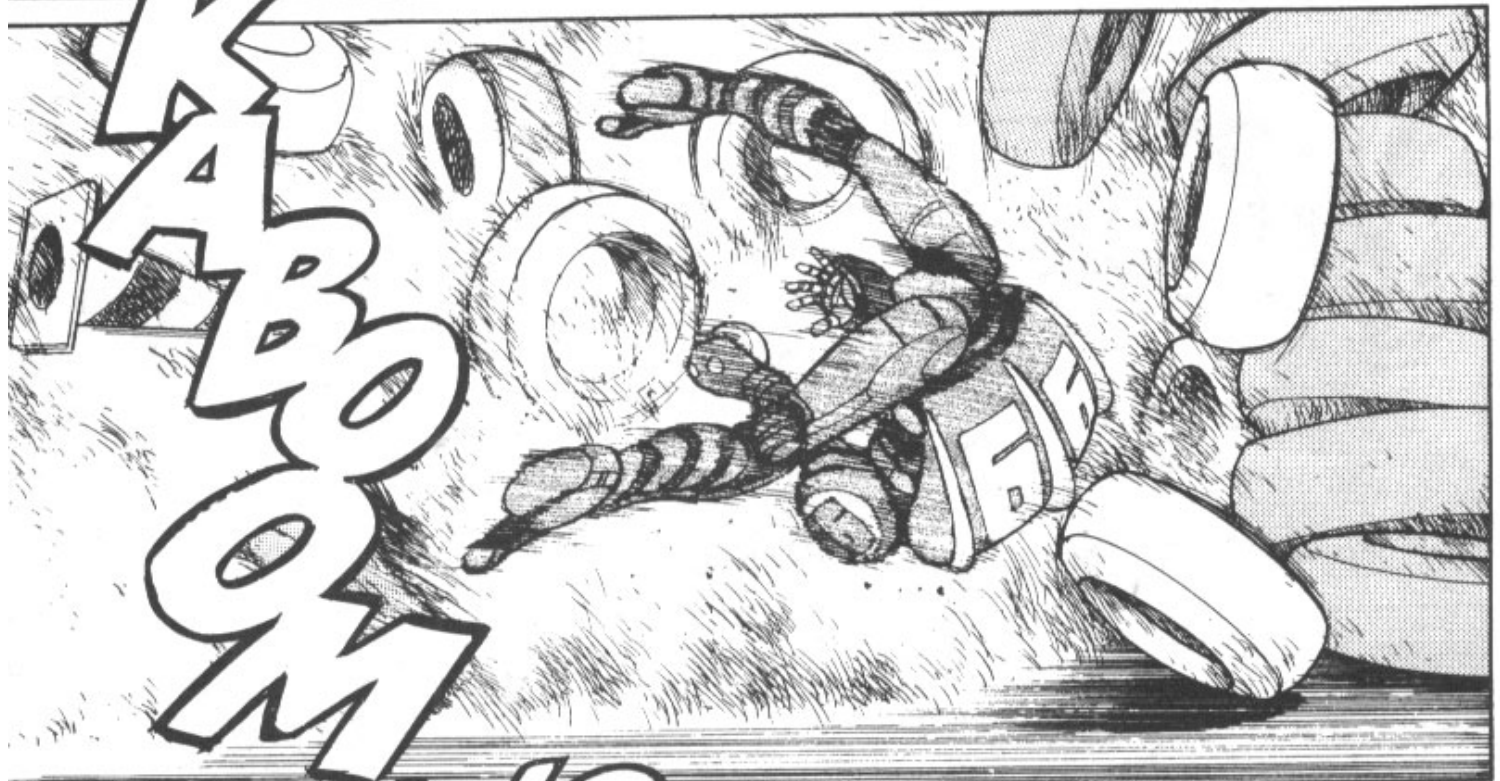








SKANG ANG



KABOOM

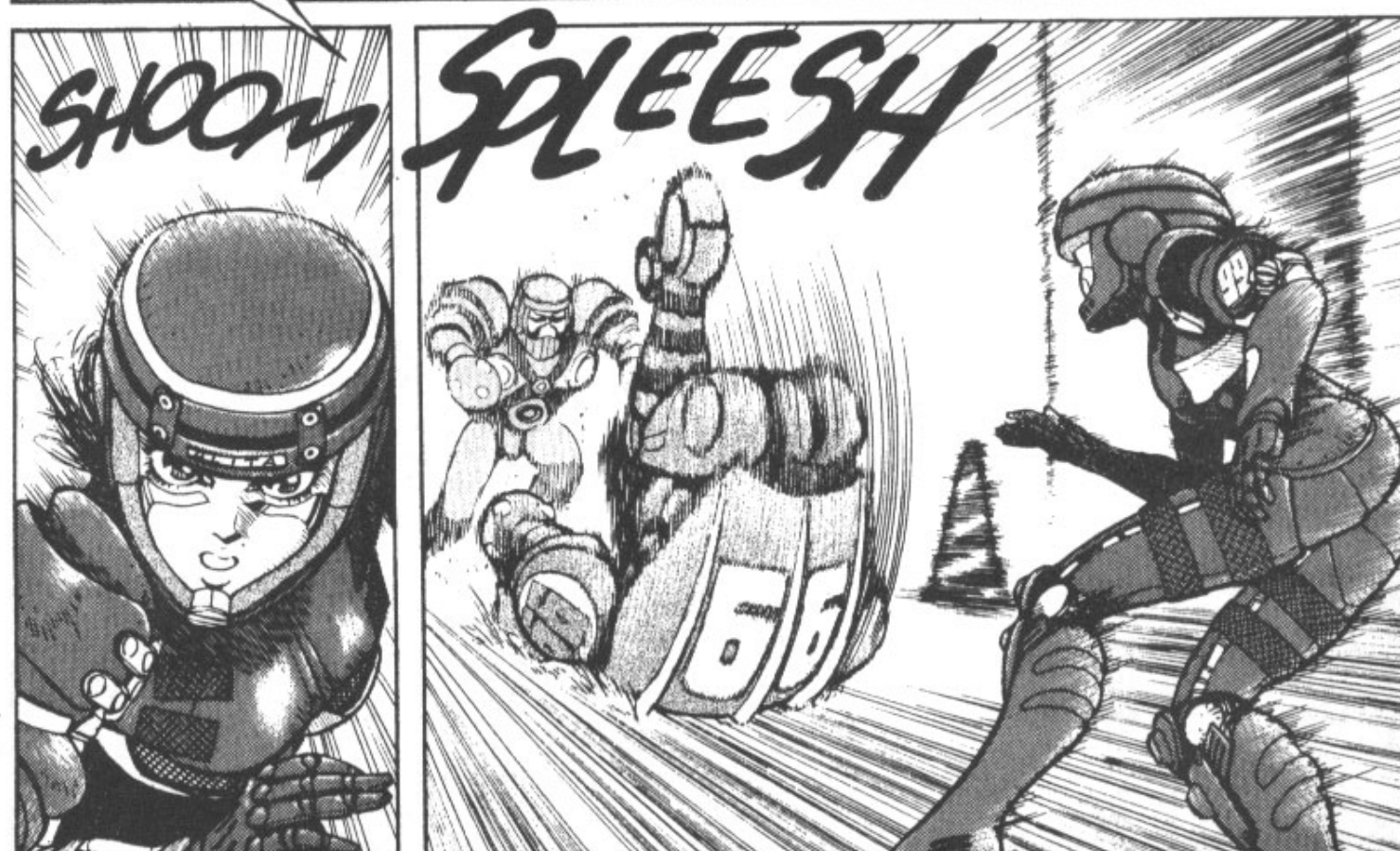
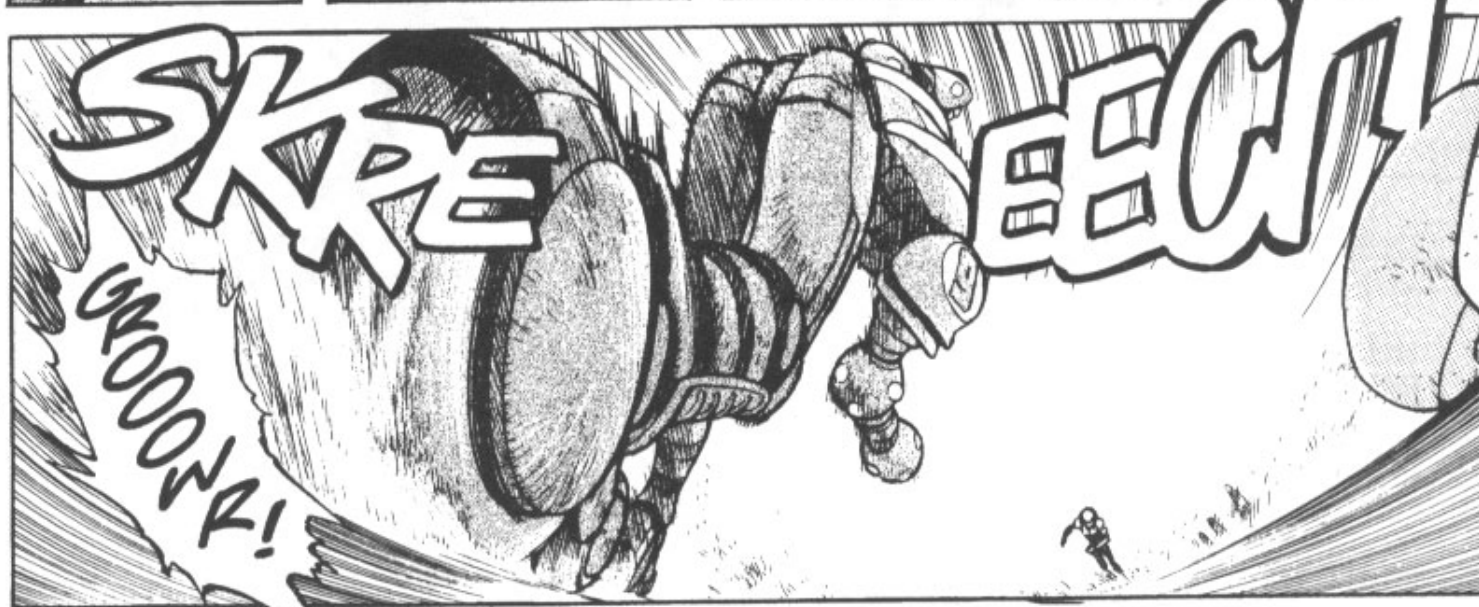


TLANG

INCREDIBLE!  
SHE AVOIDED  
A DOUBLE  
KICK...AND  
AT THE  
SAME TIME  
WENT INTO  
THE THROW--  
FROM AN  
IMPOSSIBLE  
POSITION!

BUT THE  
BATTLE  
ISN'T OVER  
YET!  
AJAKUTTV  
STILL  
HAS THE  
SKULL!





I'LL  
PULVERIZE  
THAT  
LEG  
TO  
SPLINTERS!

VAAAA

YOU CAN'T  
ESCAPE MY  
"HAMMER  
FORCE  
HURRICANE"  
KICK, LOW  
TO THE  
SHIN!

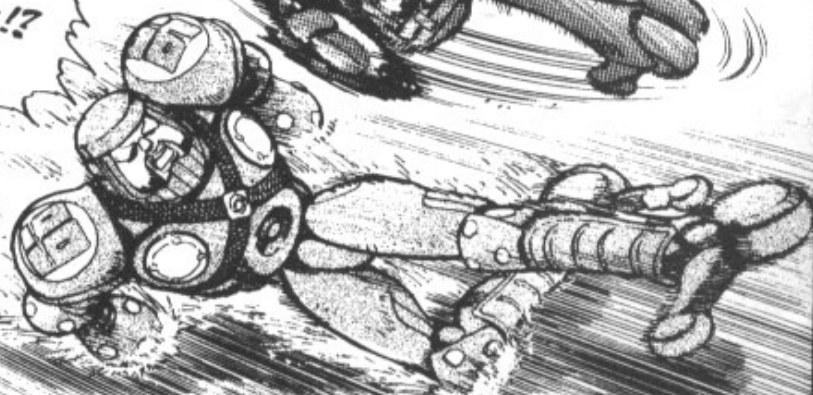
WHA-  
?!

FOOP

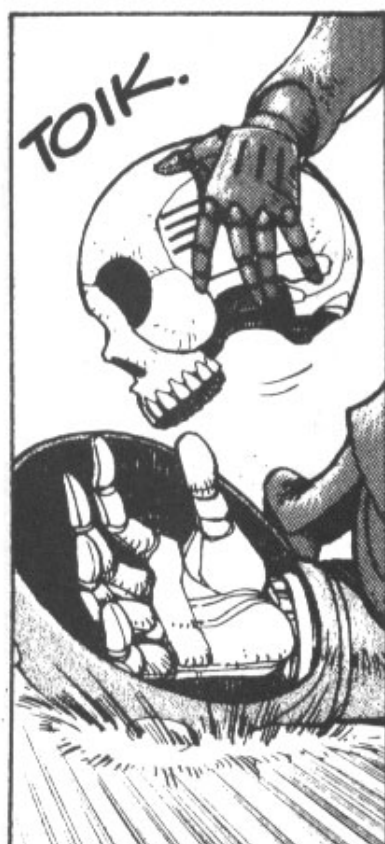
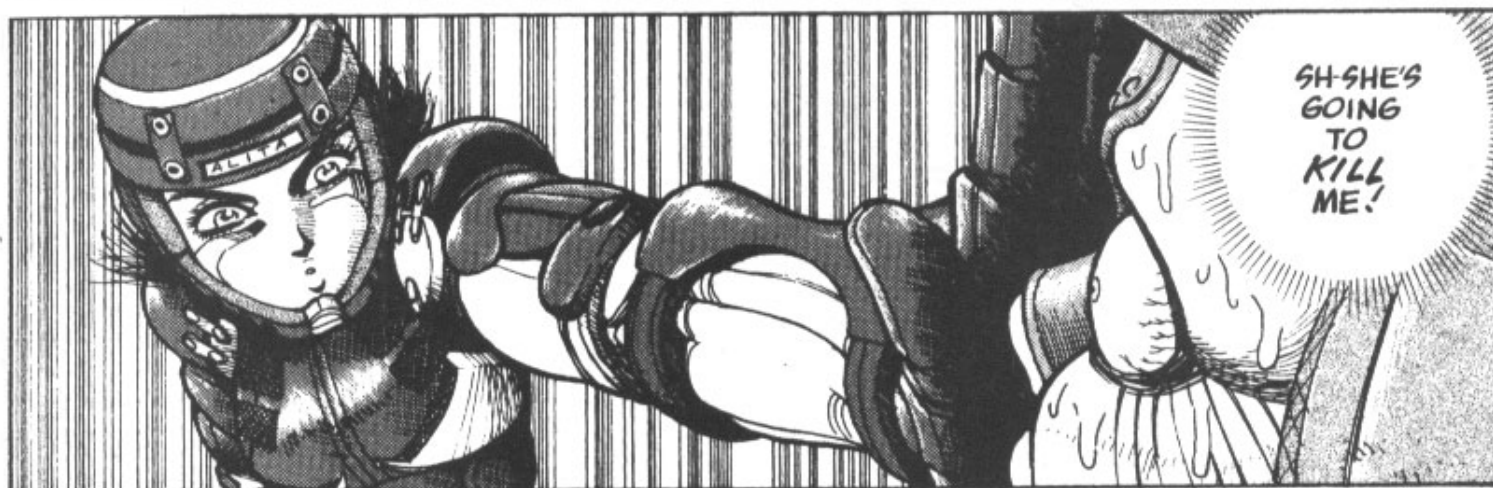
SHLOOP

IMPOSSIBLE!  
SHE READ  
MY  
ATTACK!?

AND WHEN  
YOU FALL,  
I'M GOING  
TO POUND  
MY KNUCKLES  
INTO YOUR  
SKULL!  
IT'S TIME  
YOUR BRAIN  
MET THE  
TRACK,  
GIRL!







# KAKROIK TOK

ROUND TWO...

ALITA TAKES  
THE SKULL!

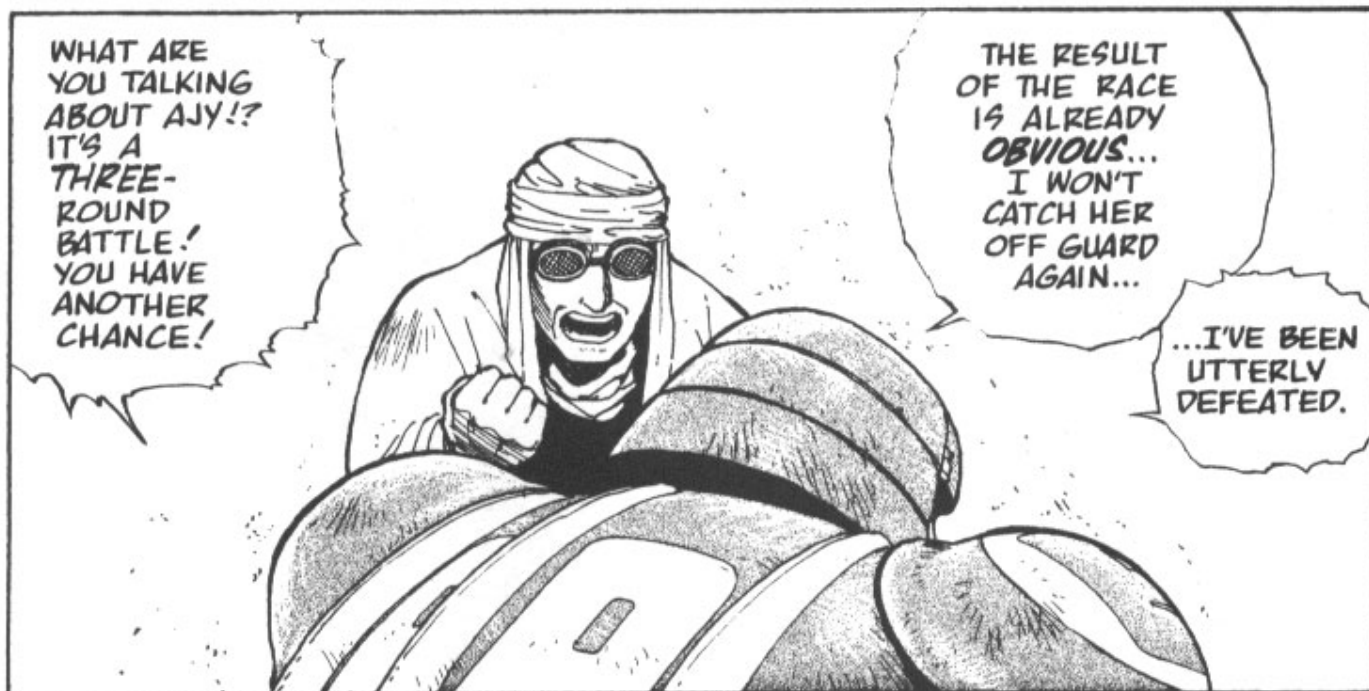
POOMP

MY  
FINEST  
"ASIAN ARTS"  
TECHNIQUES...  
DEFEATED...

I HAND  
OVER MY  
NUMBER  
TO YOU,  
ALITA...  
YOU HAVE  
MORE  
RIGHT  
TO IT  
THAN I...







WHAT ARE  
YOU TALKING  
ABOUT AJY!?  
IT'S A  
THREE-  
ROUND  
BATTLE!  
YOU HAVE  
ANOTHER  
CHANCE!

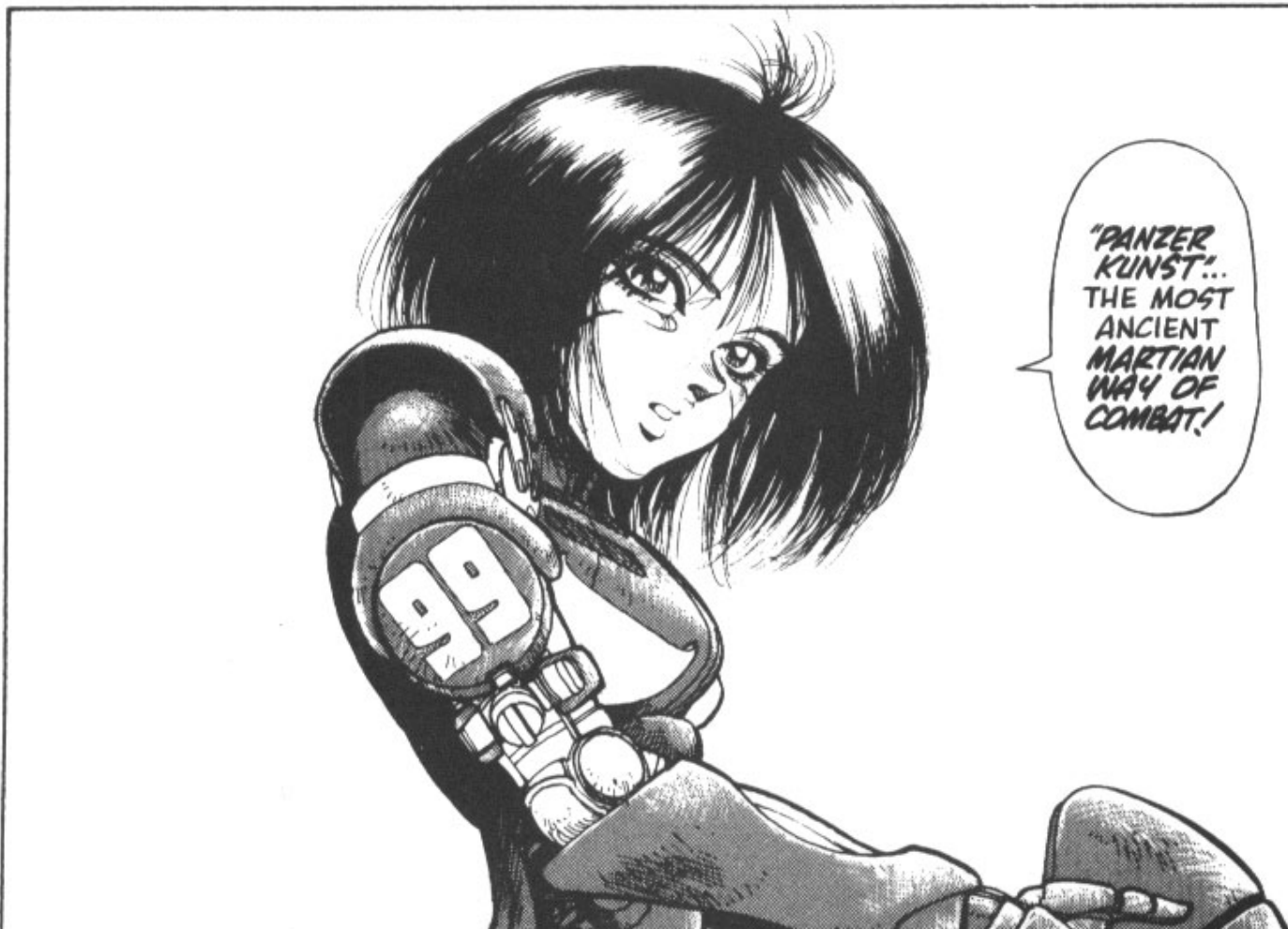
THE RESULT  
OF THE RACE  
IS ALREADY  
**OBVIOUS...**  
I WON'T  
CATCH HER  
OFF GUARD  
AGAIN...

...I'VE BEEN  
UTTERLY  
DEFEATED.



JUST  
TELL  
ME  
**ONE**  
THING...

...THE TECHNIQUE  
YOU USED,  
IT DOESN'T  
SEEM LIKE  
ANY OF THE  
**EARTHIAN ARTS...**  
WHAT IS IT?



"**PANZER  
KUNST...**  
THE MOST  
ANCIENT  
**MARTIAN**  
WAY OF  
COMBAT!"

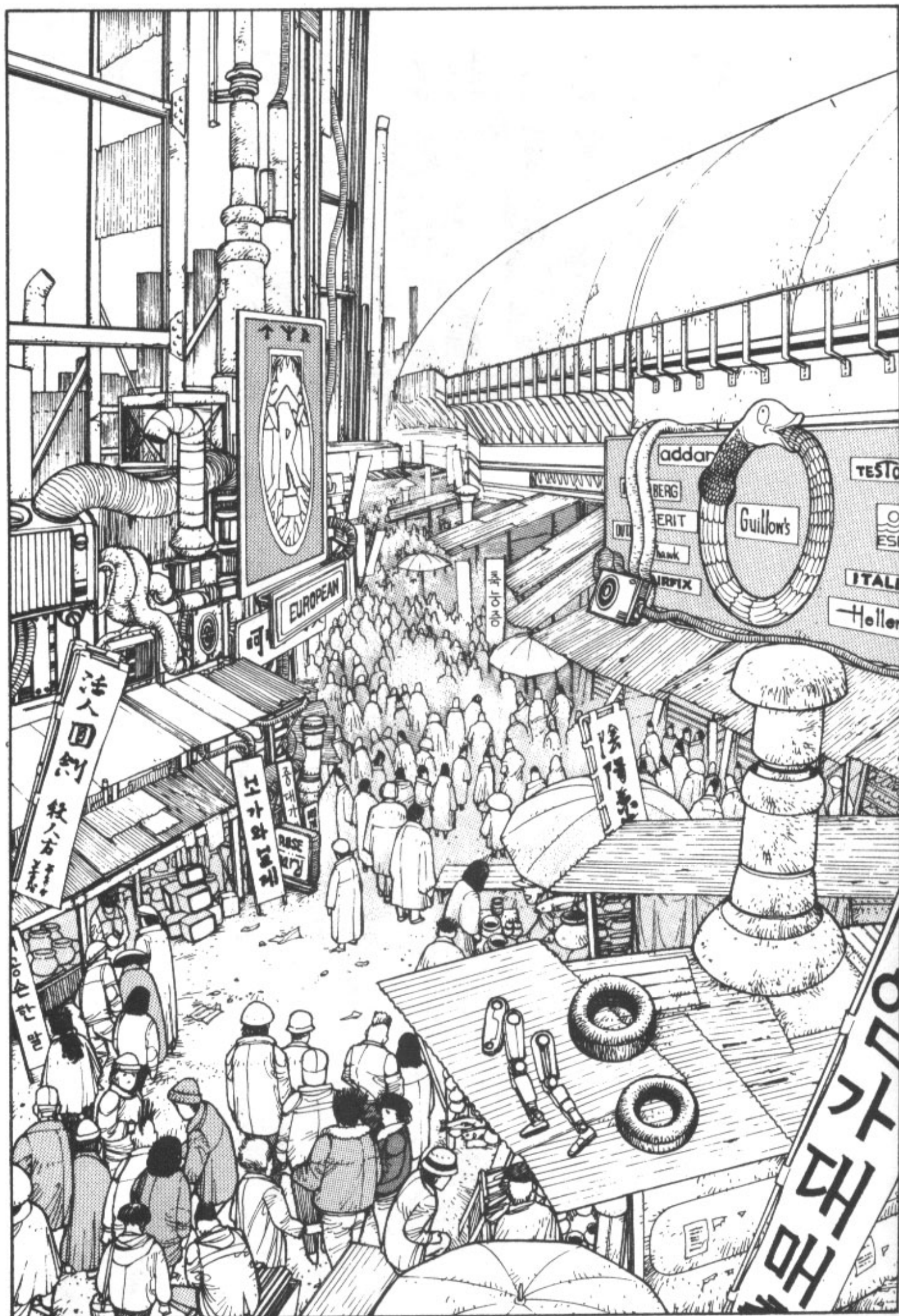




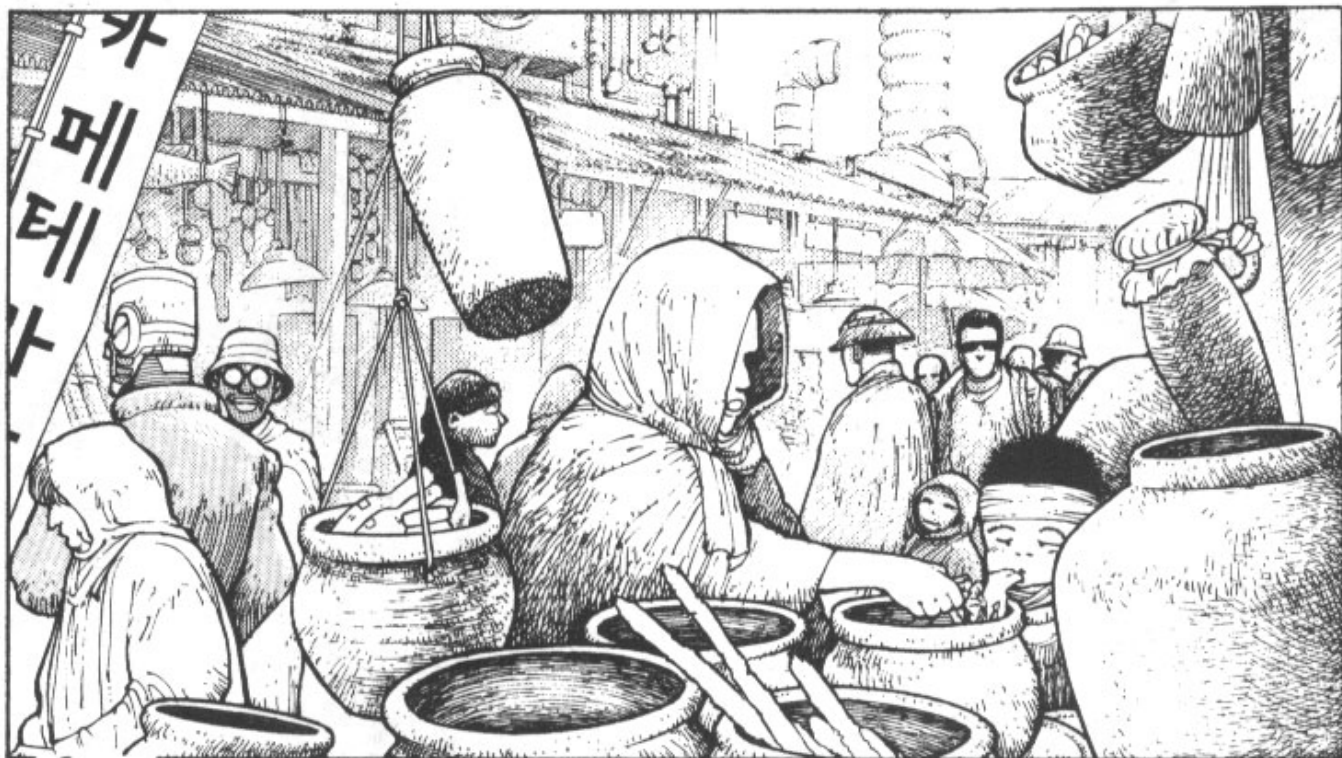
# THE SKULL CHALLENGE: PART TWO

Race 4: To Kill or to Win









HAVEN'T BEEN OUT IN A WHILE... KINDA NICE FOR A CHANGE!

JUST REMEMBER-- THE SECOND LEAGUE GAME IS NEXT WEEK, SO LET'S TAKE IT EASY TODAY.

SEA MONKEY

\$100 EACH \$100

UMBA SHOULD HAVE COME TOO, DON'T YOU THINK, ED?

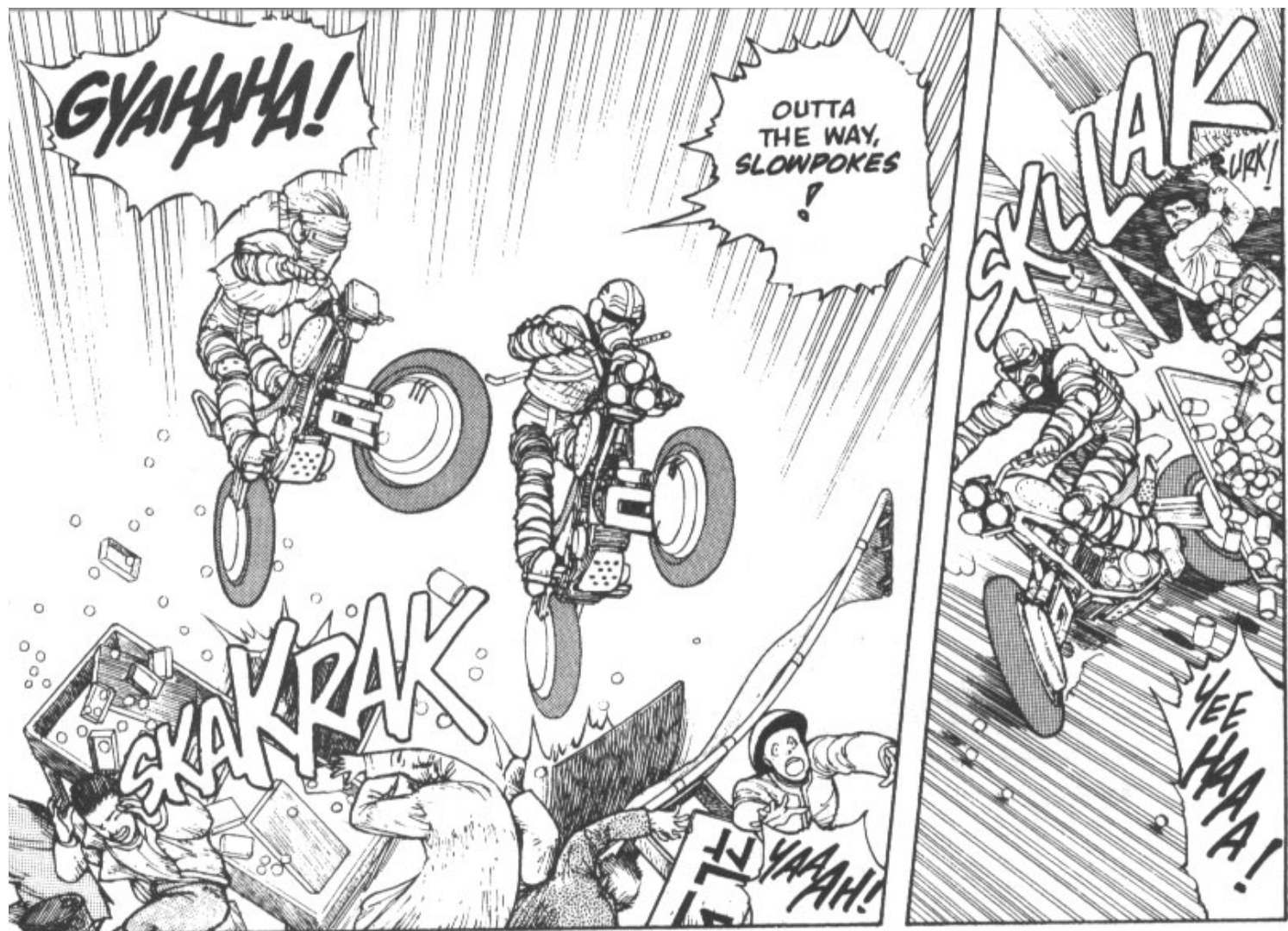
NAW, HE'S GOT AGORAPHOBIA. NO FUN ON AN OUTING...

PARTS

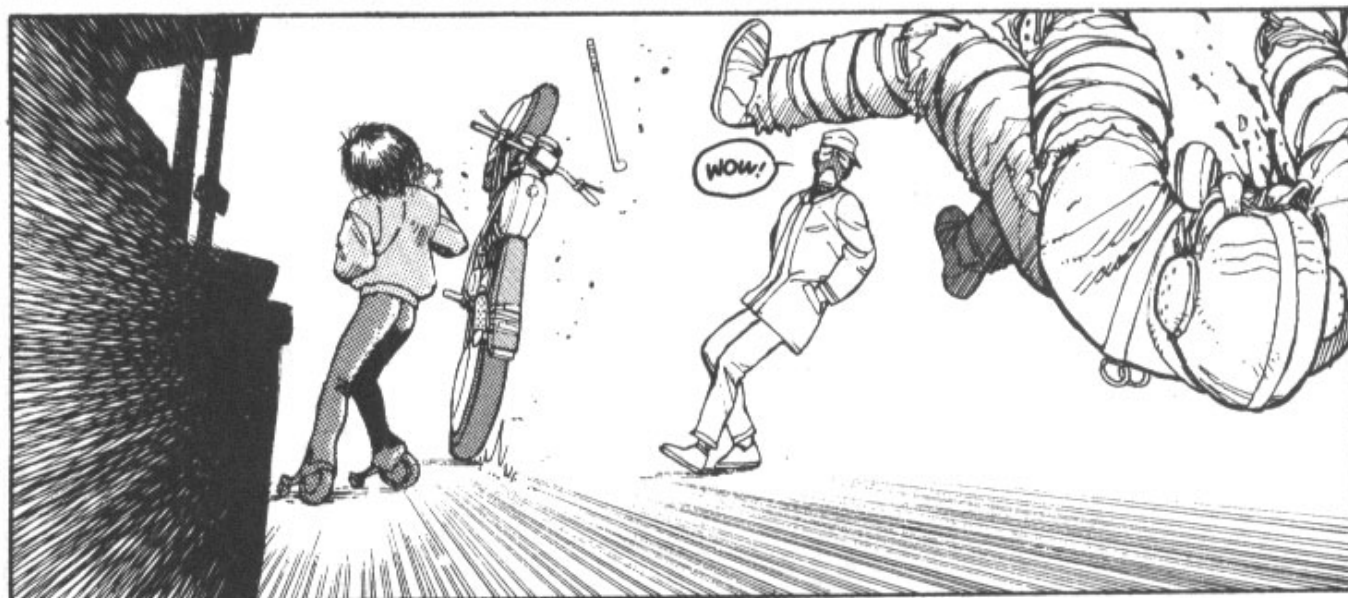
HEY, THIS HANDS HEAR!

Sale \$4,500

VRRM  
RRAM







A LOVER,  
PERHAPS?  
A  
KOOCHIE  
KOOCHIE  
KOO?

NO, ED! THAT'S  
NOT IT...HE'S THE  
ONE WHO FOUND  
ME WITHOUT ANY  
MEMORIES--WHO  
TOOK ME IN AND  
GAVE ME MY  
NAME.

HOW DARE  
YOU DO  
THAT TO  
MY BRO!

SKREE

IF IT  
WASN'T FOR  
HIM, I  
WOULDN'T  
EVEN BE HERE  
NOW.

DIIEEE--!

THERE'S  
NOT A DAY  
I DON'T  
REMEMBER  
THAT. I-I  
LOVE HIM  
VERY MUCH...

WRECK

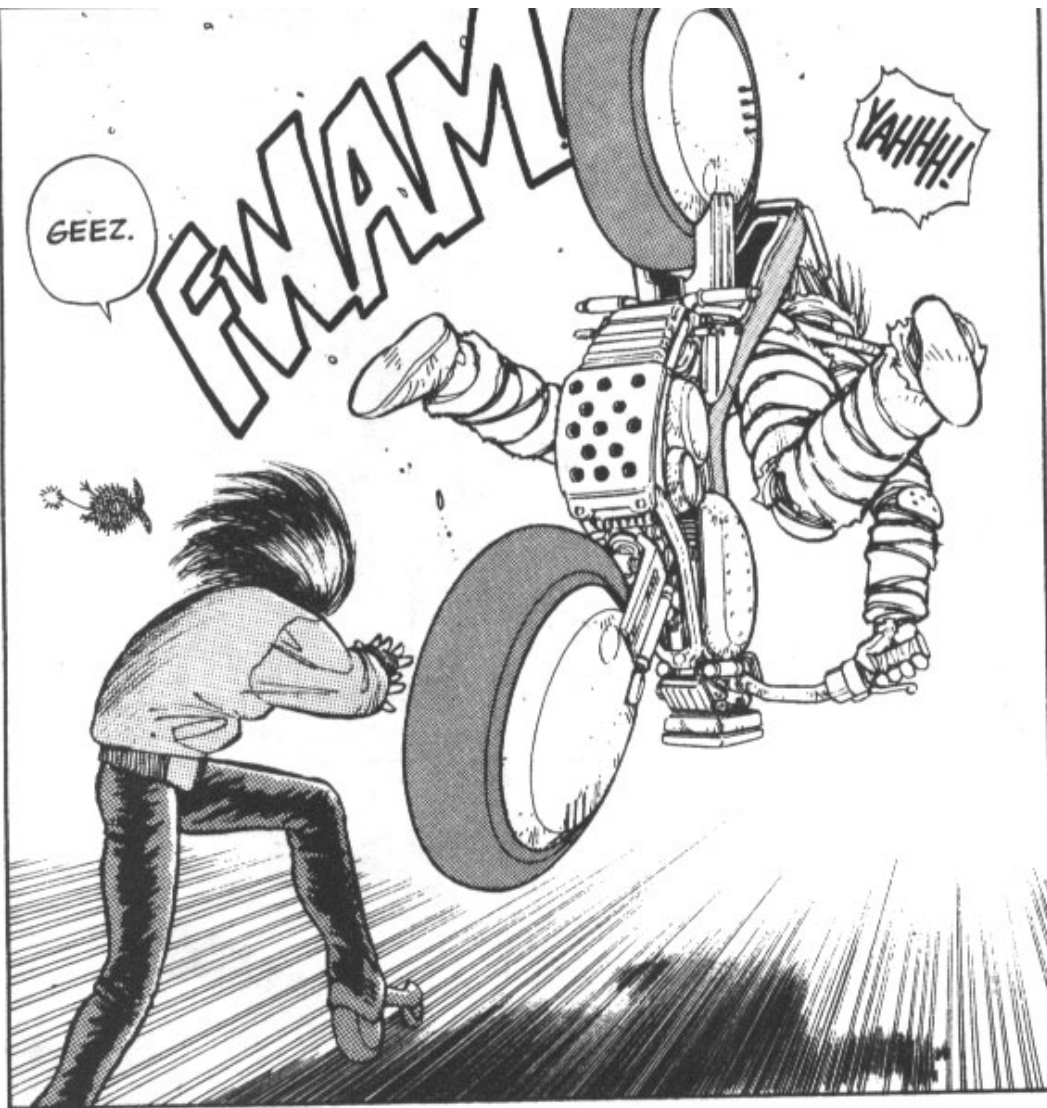
!?

SKIK

BUT, WHEN  
HE'S AROUND,  
I CAN NEVER  
BE HONEST  
ABOUT MY  
FEELINGS.

GRIN





SOUNDS  
LIKE YOU'RE  
FEELING  
A LITTLE  
GUILTY,  
ALITA.  
GUILT IS  
LIKE A  
POISON WE  
ALL FEEL  
INSIDE US...

...BUT A POISON  
IN SMALL DOSES  
CAN BE A CURE.  
IT'S BETTER FOR  
A PERSON TO  
HAVE SOME  
THAN NONE  
AT ALL...



I GUESS  
YOU'RE  
RIGHT...



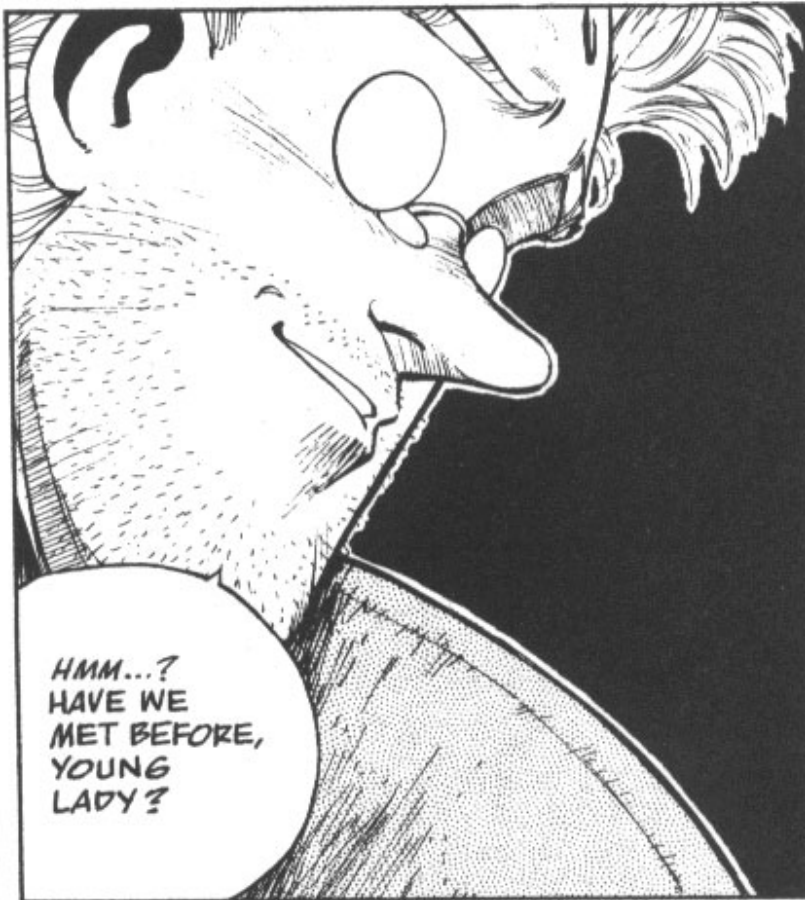
BY THE  
WAY, WHAT  
WAS THAT  
THROW?

THE TWO-  
WHEELED  
BIKER  
THROW...

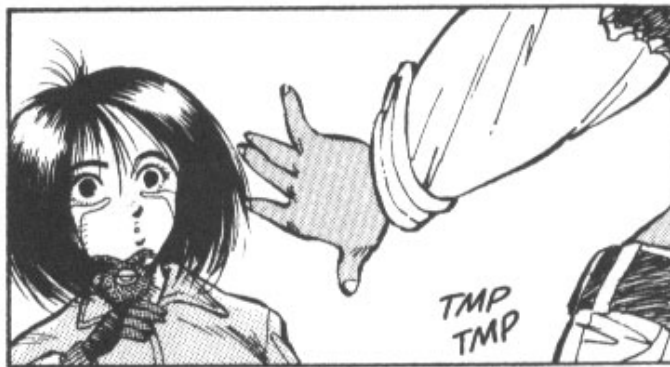














A TOAST  
TO MY  
ONE-TIME  
RIVAL...



HEH...  
"ONE-  
TIME,"  
HUH  
?



WELLLLLLLLL...  
PRETTY SOON  
ALITA WILL  
BE ON YOUR  
CIRCUIT IN  
MY PLACE.  
I'M SURE  
SHE'LL WANT  
TO SAY HELLO--  
SO DON'T YOU  
GO RETIRING  
ANYTIME  
SOON.



I'LL BE  
LOOKING  
FORWARD  
TO IT.



THAT GIRL IS  
GOING TO CHALLENGE  
THE GRAND  
CHAMPION...?

HA, HA,  
HA...  
SOME  
JOKE!

!





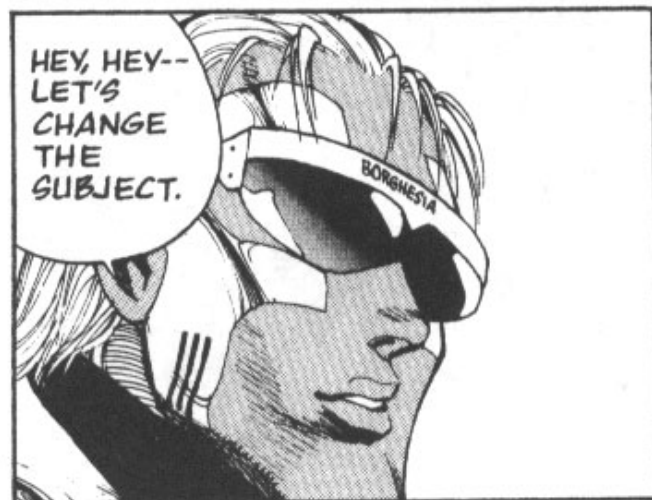


YOU  
PEOPLE  
MUST  
BE OUT  
OF YOUR  
MINDS  
!

SHE'D  
BE BETTER  
OFF PICKING  
UP GUYS  
IN THE  
WAREHOUSE  
DISTRICT,  
DON'T YOU  
THINK?

WHA'D  
YOU  
SAY!?

Hmph



HEY, HEY--  
LET'S  
CHANGE  
THE  
SUBJECT.

BORGHEZIA



ALITA  
!



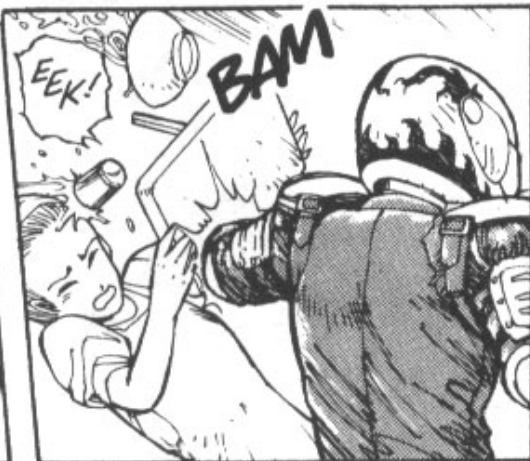
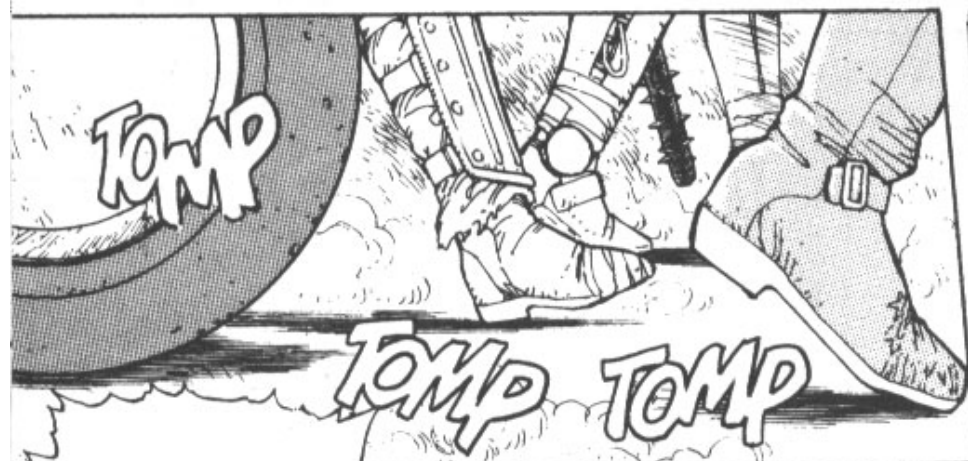
I CHALLENGE YOU,  
CHAMPION!

LET'S SEE  
RIGHT HERE  
AND NOW  
WHICH IS THE  
BETTER...  
YOUR  
MASCHINE  
KLATSCH OR  
MY PANZER  
KUNST!

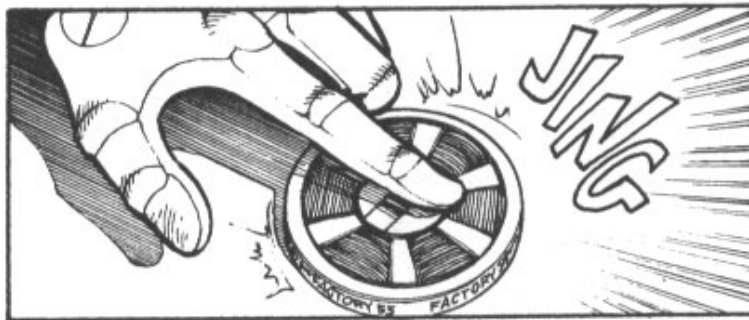
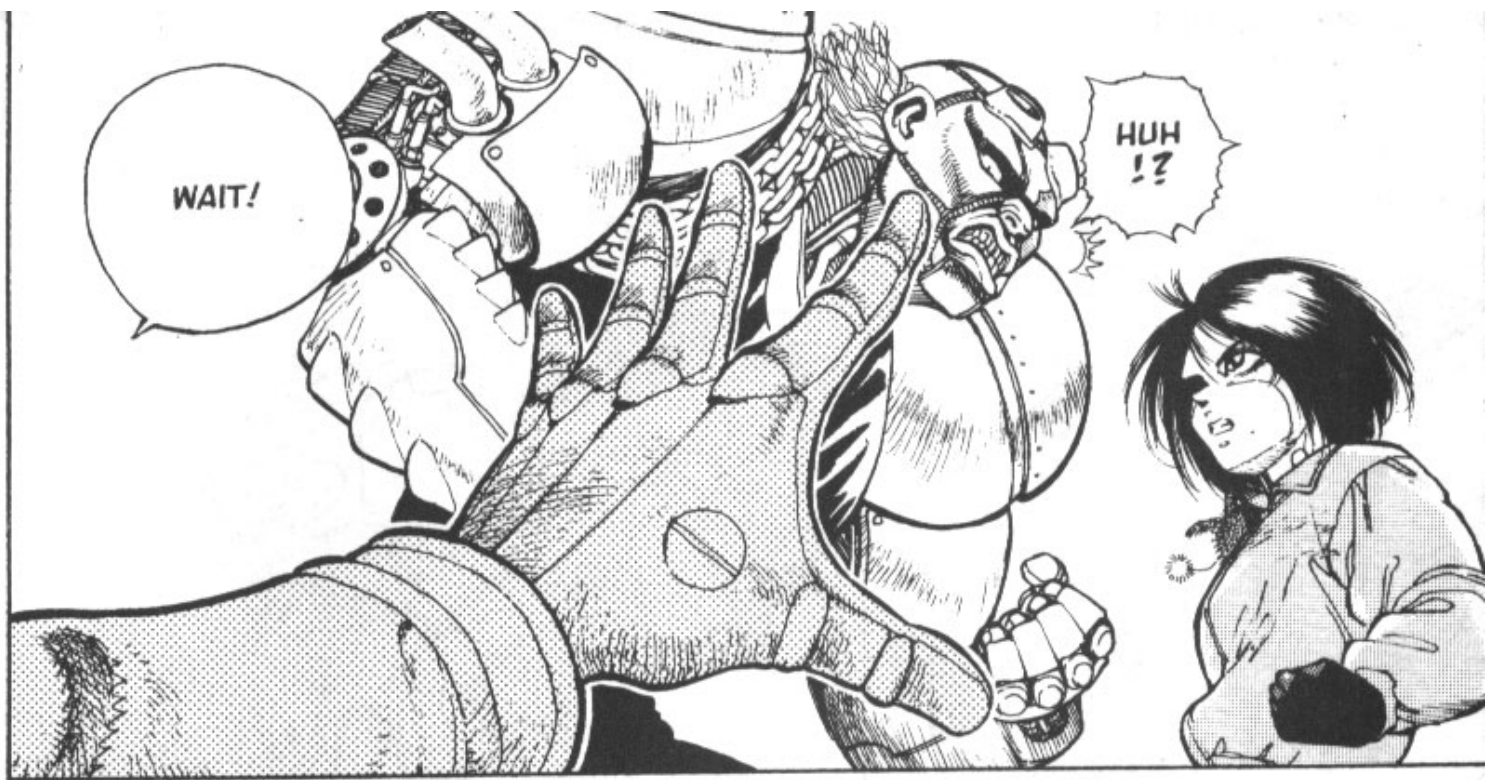


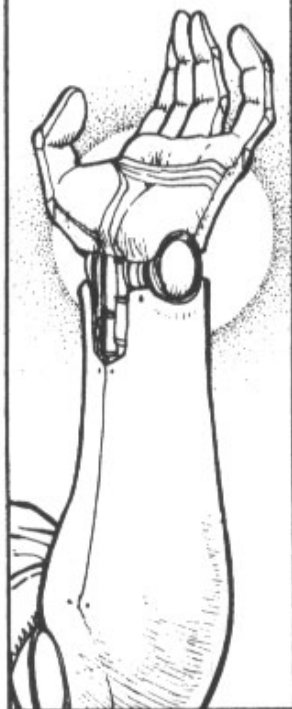
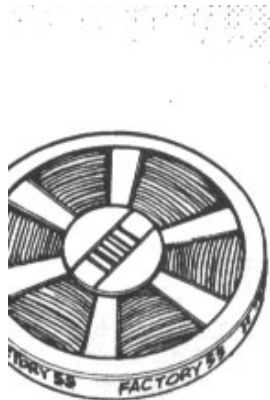
YOU'VE  
GOT GUTS,  
I'LL GIVE  
YOU  
THAT...

...BUT I'M A  
PROFESSIONAL.  
NO FIGHT  
WITHOUT PROFIT.  
YOU'LL JUST HAVE  
TO GO HOME  
AND COOL OFF,  
SWEETHEART!









NOT  
A BAD  
BET.

GET  
HIM,  
BOSS  
!



THIS JASHUGAN  
BODY ISN'T FOR  
MOTORBALL  
COMPETITION...  
JUST AN  
ORDINARY  
CIVILIAN  
MODEL!



THAT BIKER  
PUNK'S GOT MORE  
POWER--  
MORE RIGIDITY!  
CAN HE WIN!?



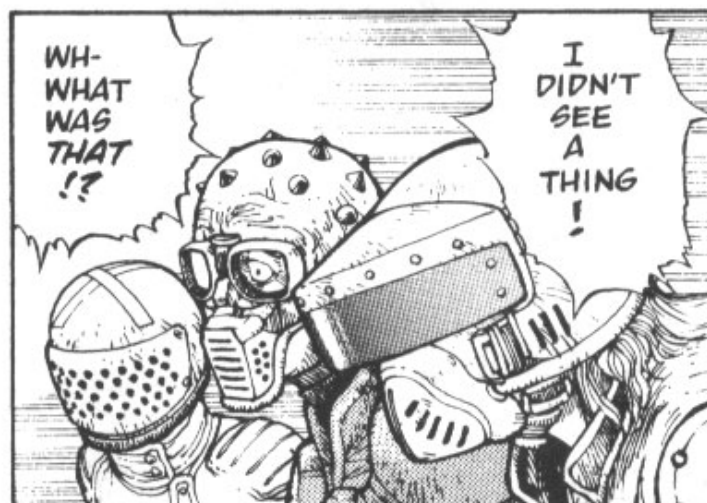
VMM

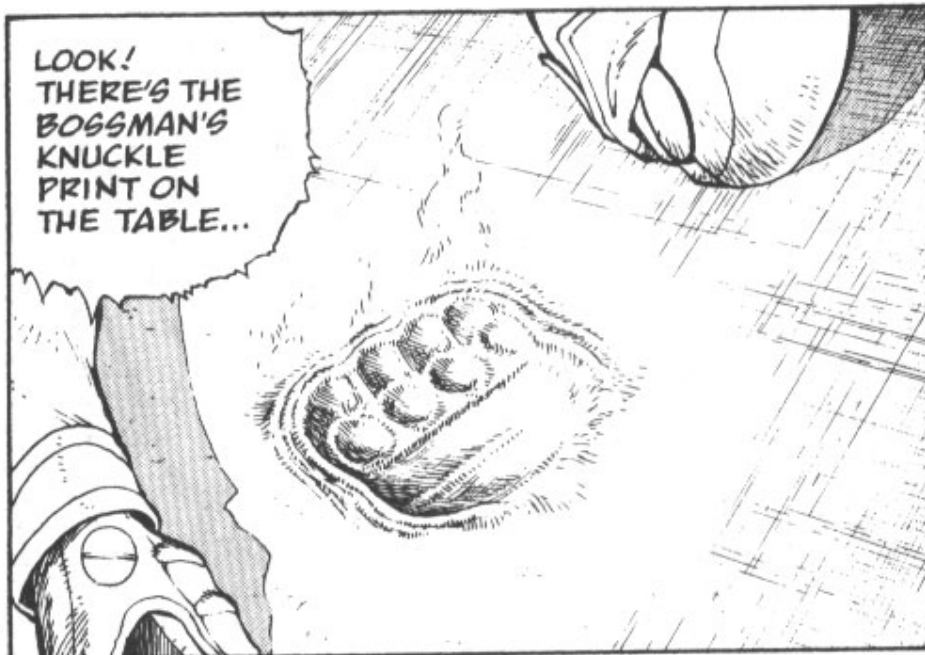
VMM

SWAP









LOOK!  
THERE'S THE  
BOSSMAN'S  
KNUCKLE  
PRINT ON  
THE TABLE...



...LOOKS  
LIKE I  
WIN.



NOW GET  
OUTTA  
HERE, YOU  
PUNKS!



AGH! YOU'RE  
EMPEROR  
JASHUGAN!

WE DON'T  
STAND A  
CHANCE!



EXCUSE  
US!

TMP TMP TMP

HEY--  
SOMEBODY GIVE  
ME A LIFT!





YOU SEE,  
ALITA?

BEFORE  
PANZER KUNST...  
BEFORE MASCHINE  
KLATSCH...BEFORE  
EVEN THE  
GIMMICKS OF THE  
BODY...

...THE  
OUTCOME  
OF A  
BATTLE IS  
DECIDED  
BY THE  
"CHI."

SOME  
CALL IT  
TIMING...  
SOME  
SAY IT'S  
CHANCE...

...BUT ONE  
STRIKES WHEN  
NECESSARY, AND  
AVOIDS WHEN  
NECESSARY. THE  
IMPORTANT THING  
IS THE POWER  
AND SPEED OF  
THE HEART...



BORGHESIA

...THAT  
CONCENTRATION  
CAN TURN ONE'S  
WILL INTO  
POSSIBILITY.  
THAT IS THE  
"CHI."

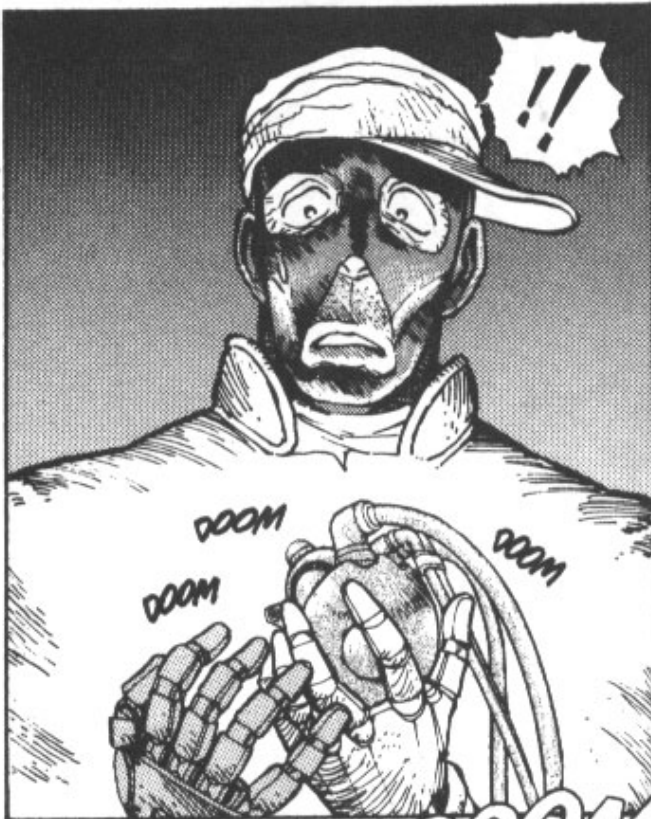
TO BETTER  
HELP YOU  
UNDERSTAND,  
PERHAPS  
YOU'D LIKE  
TO PLAY  
THIS GAME  
WITH ME...

BEAT ME  
ARM WRESTLING, AND  
I'LL ACCEPT YOUR  
CHALLENGE...BUT  
IF I WIN...



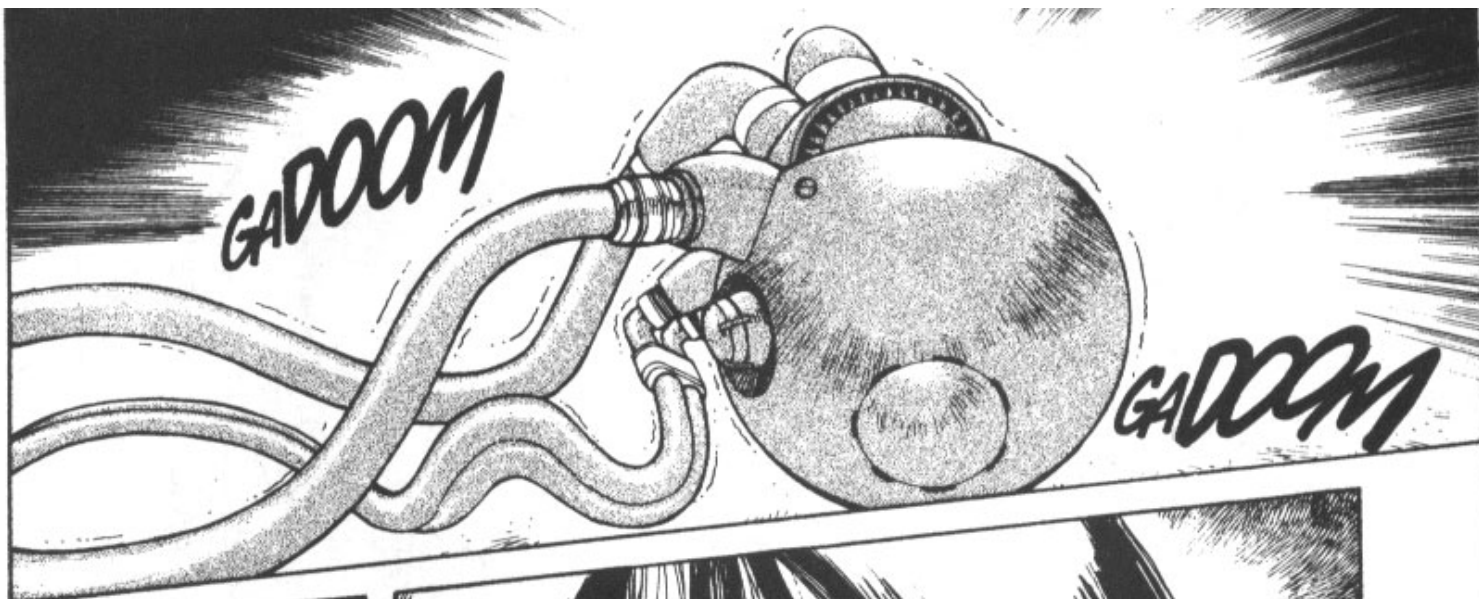














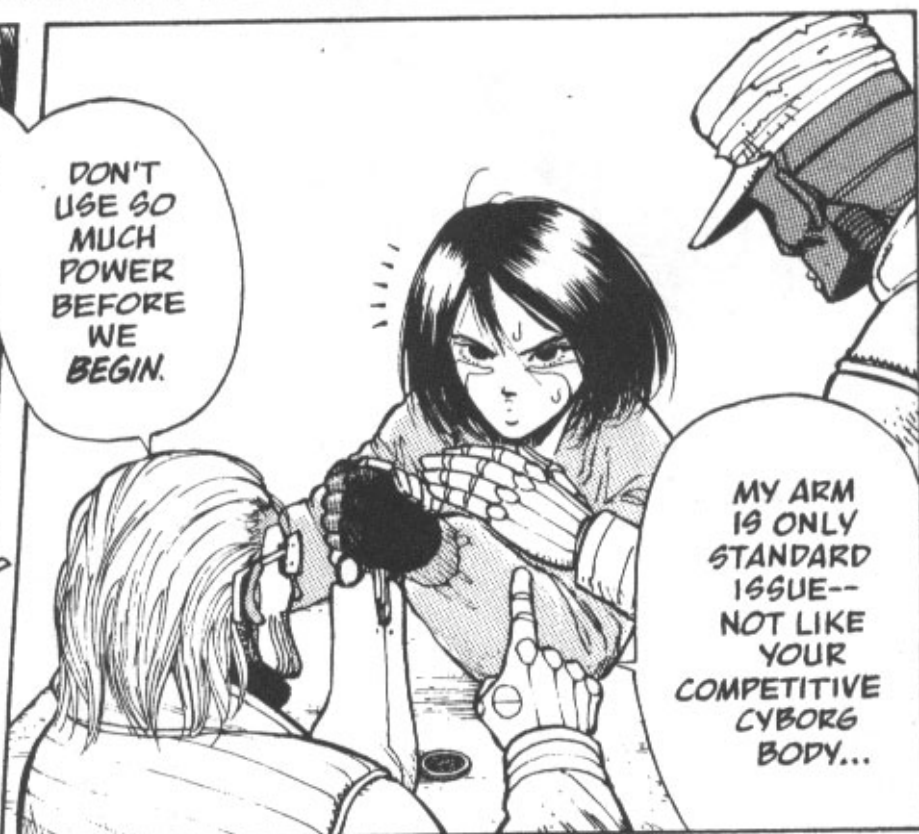
**READY!**



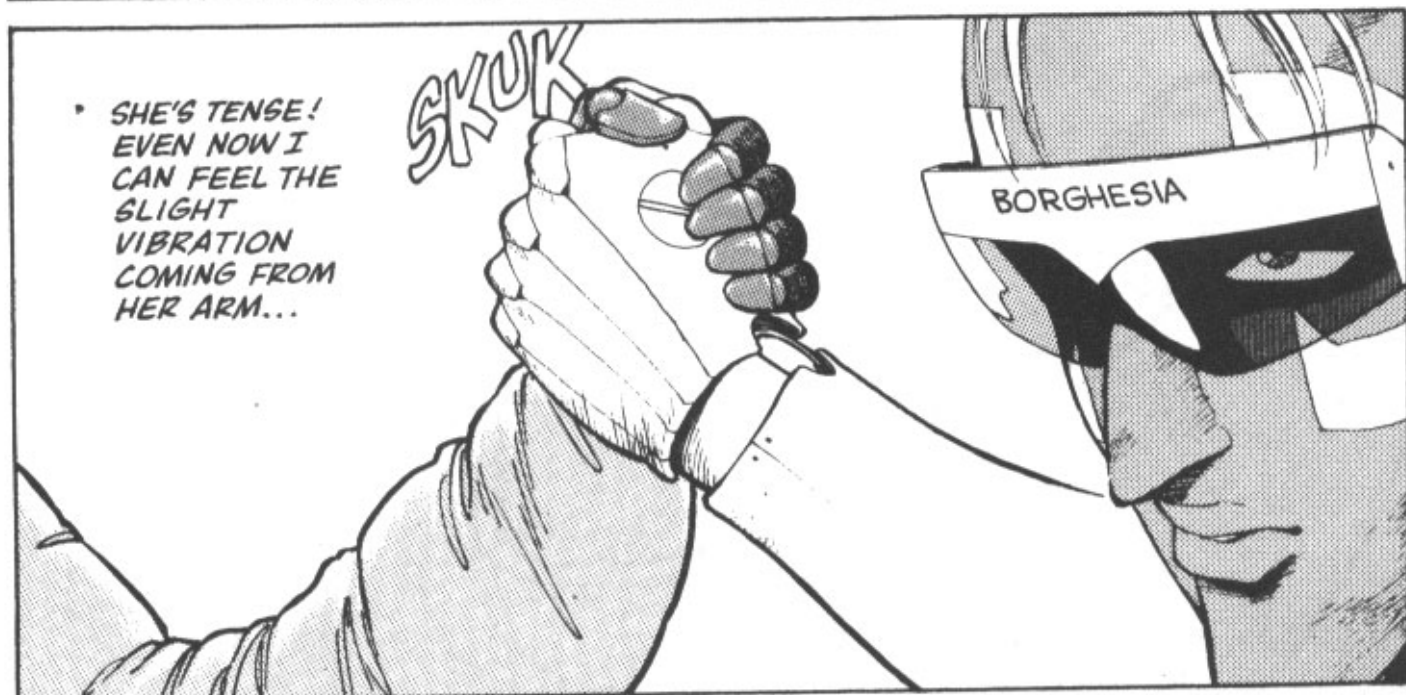


WHOA!

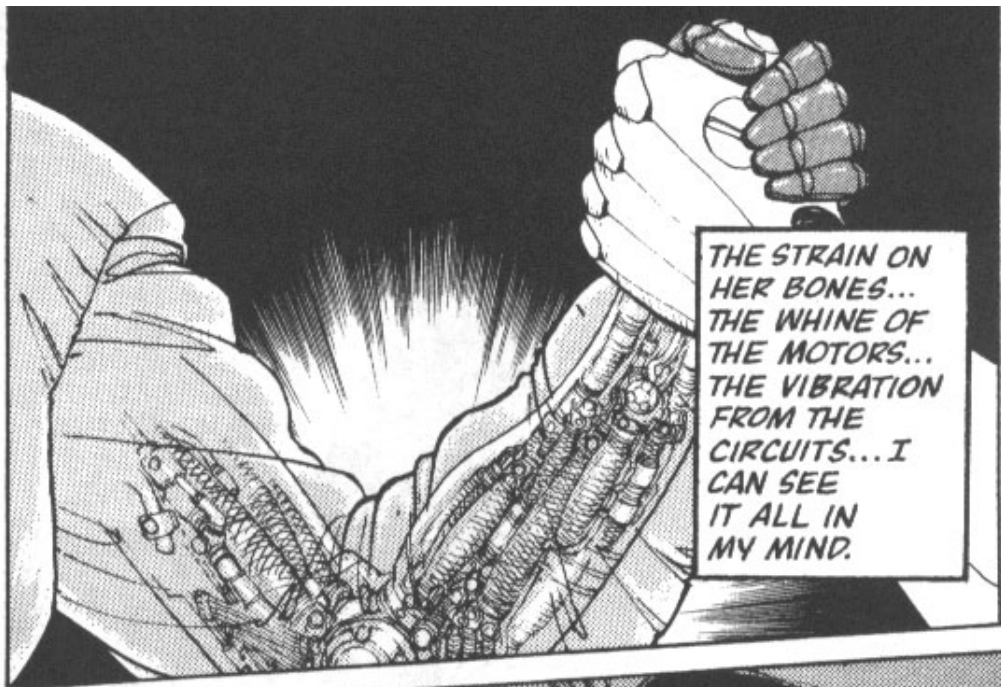
DON'T  
USE SO  
MUCH  
POWER  
BEFORE  
WE  
BEGIN.



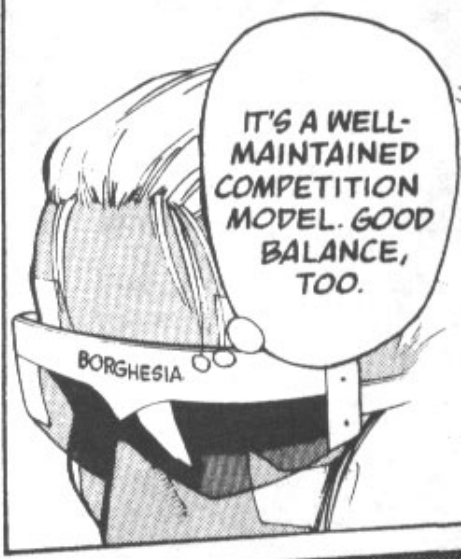
MY ARM  
IS ONLY  
STANDARD  
ISSUE--  
NOT LIKE  
YOUR  
COMPETITIVE  
CYBORG  
BODY...



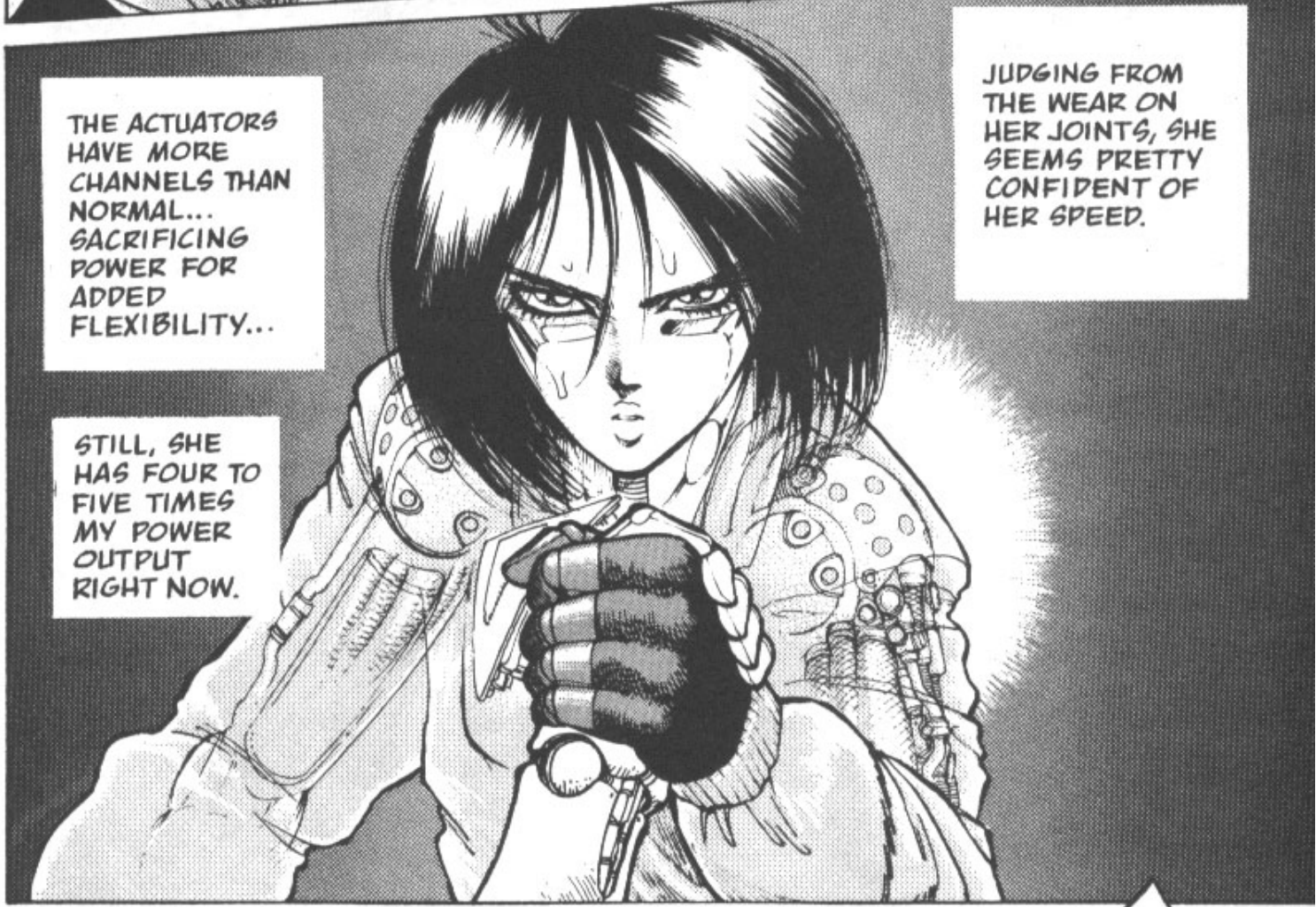
SHE'S TENSE!  
EVEN NOW I  
CAN FEEL THE  
SLIGHT  
VIBRATION  
COMING FROM  
HER ARM...



THE STRAIN ON  
HER BONES...  
THE WHINE OF  
THE MOTORS...  
THE VIBRATION  
FROM THE  
CIRCUITS... I  
CAN SEE  
IT ALL IN  
MY MIND.



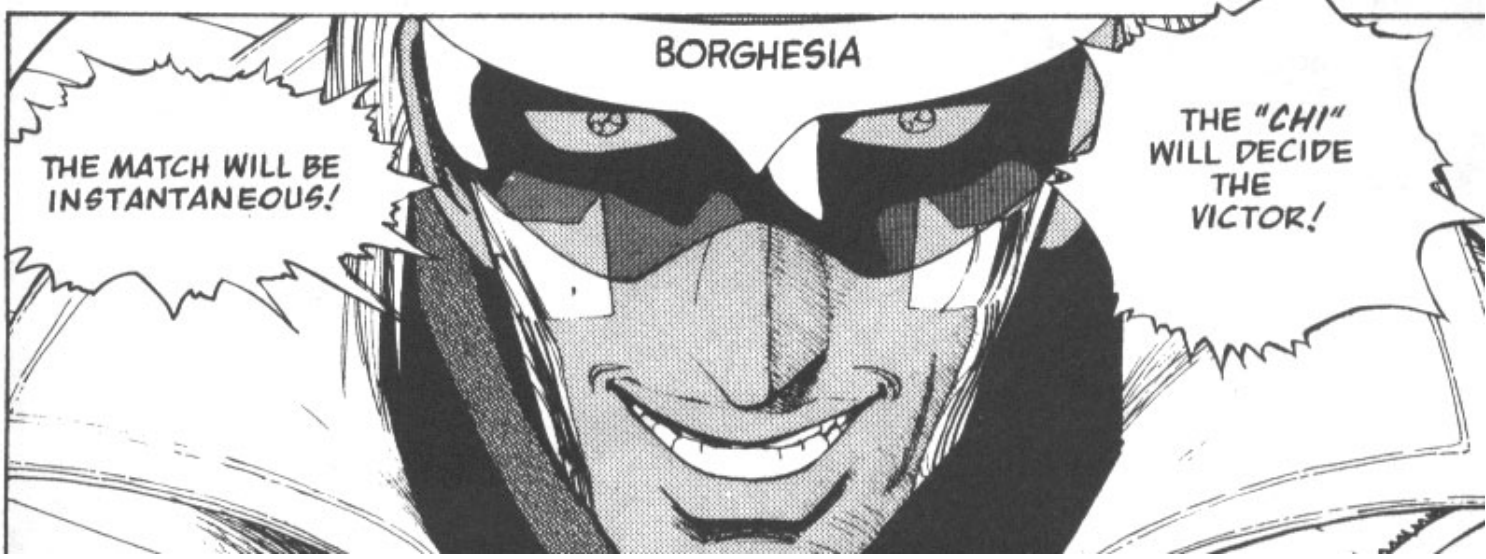
IT'S A WELL-  
MAINTAINED  
COMPETITION  
MODEL. GOOD  
BALANCE,  
TOO.



THE ACTUATORS  
HAVE MORE  
CHANNELS THAN  
NORMAL...  
SACRIFICING  
POWER FOR  
ADDED  
FLEXIBILITY...

STILL, SHE  
HAS FOUR TO  
FIVE TIMES  
MY POWER  
OUTPUT  
RIGHT NOW.

JUDGING FROM  
THE WEAR ON  
HER JOINTS, SHE  
SEEMS PRETTY  
CONFIDENT OF  
HER SPEED.



BORGHESIA

THE MATCH WILL BE  
INSTANTANEOUS!

THE "CHI"  
WILL DECIDE  
THE  
VICTOR!

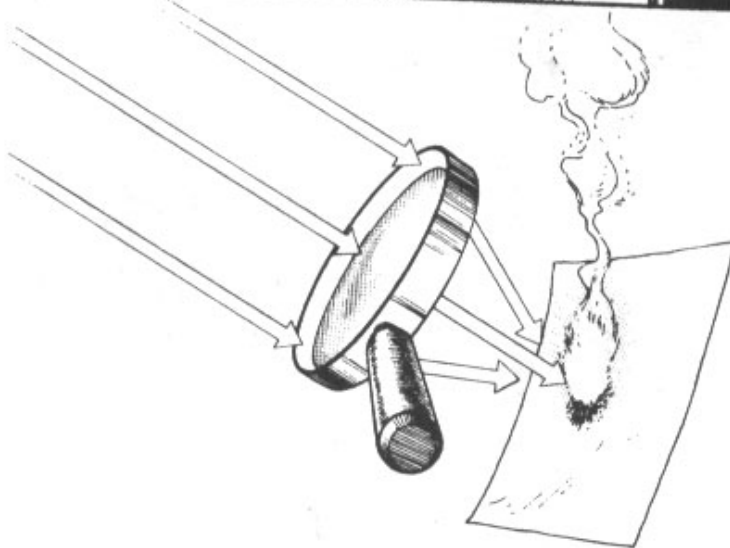


THE  
"CHI"...

THE  
"CHI" IS  
NOT JUST  
ABOUT  
REACTION  
SPEED  
OR HOW  
STRONGLY  
THE  
MUSCLES  
REACT...

...IT'S ALSO THE  
ABILITY TO READ  
THE OPPONENT'S  
ACTIONS AN  
INSTANT BEFORE  
THEY HAPPEN,  
THEN CONCENTRATE  
ALL OF ONE'S MEN-  
TAL AND PHYSICAL  
STRENGTH TO THE  
ONE POINT THAT  
WILL BE MOST  
EFFECTIVE...

A WELL  
FOCUSED "CHI"  
WILL BRING FORTH  
**INCREDIBLE**  
POWER... THE  
RAYS OF THE SUN  
CAN'T BURN  
PAPER, BUT...



...BY USING A  
MAGNIFYING LENS--  
CONCENTRATING  
THE RAYS ON ONE  
POINT-- THE  
PAPER WILL **BURN!**  
IT'S THE SAME  
PRINCIPLE!

DAMMIT!  
IF ALITA LOSES,  
I'LL BE FORCED TO  
DESTROY HER  
HEART... I CAN'T  
DO THAT! SHE'S  
MY LAST HOPE...  
THE ONLY CHANCE  
I HAVE TO  
REALIZE MY  
DREAMS!

I MUST BELIEVE  
IN HER! WITH EVERY  
OUNCE OF MY WILL--  
MY HEART--I MUST  
BELIEVE THAT SHE'S  
GOT WHAT IT  
TAKES!

**GADGON**

WHEN  
FACE-TO-  
FACE WITH  
DEATH...

...PEOPLE  
CAN HAVE AN  
INCREDIBLE  
AMOUNT OF  
CONCENTRATION!  
I'VE FELT IT  
MYSELF!

GADDOON

IF, FOR EVEN  
AN INSTANT,  
ALITA'S "CHI"  
RIVALS  
JASHUGAN'S "CHI"  
SHE HAS A  
CHANCE! ALITA  
POSSESSES  
THE POWER  
ADVANTAGE--  
IF SHE CAN  
USE IT!

HERE  
GOES  
!

BE--

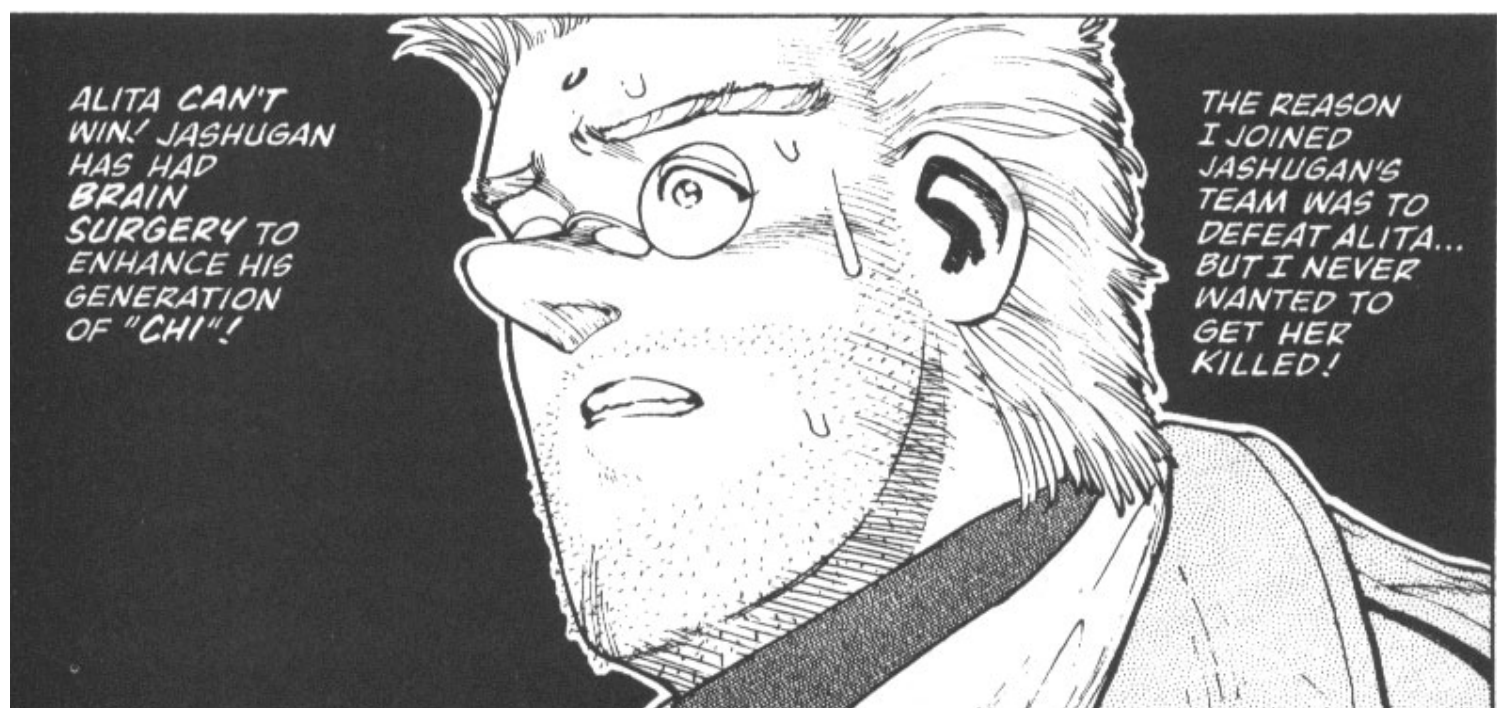
SHAA

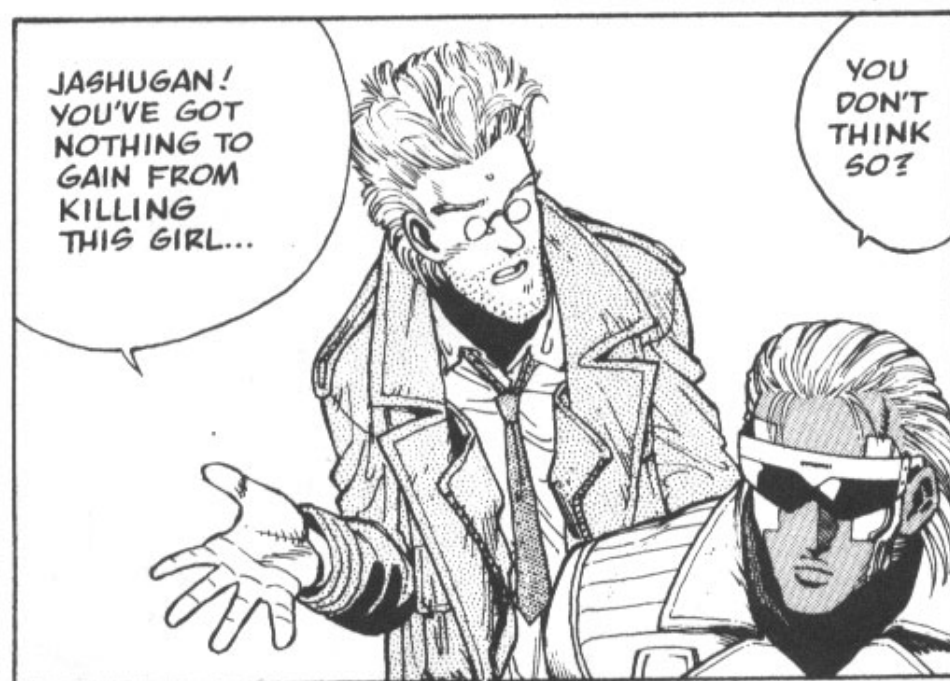
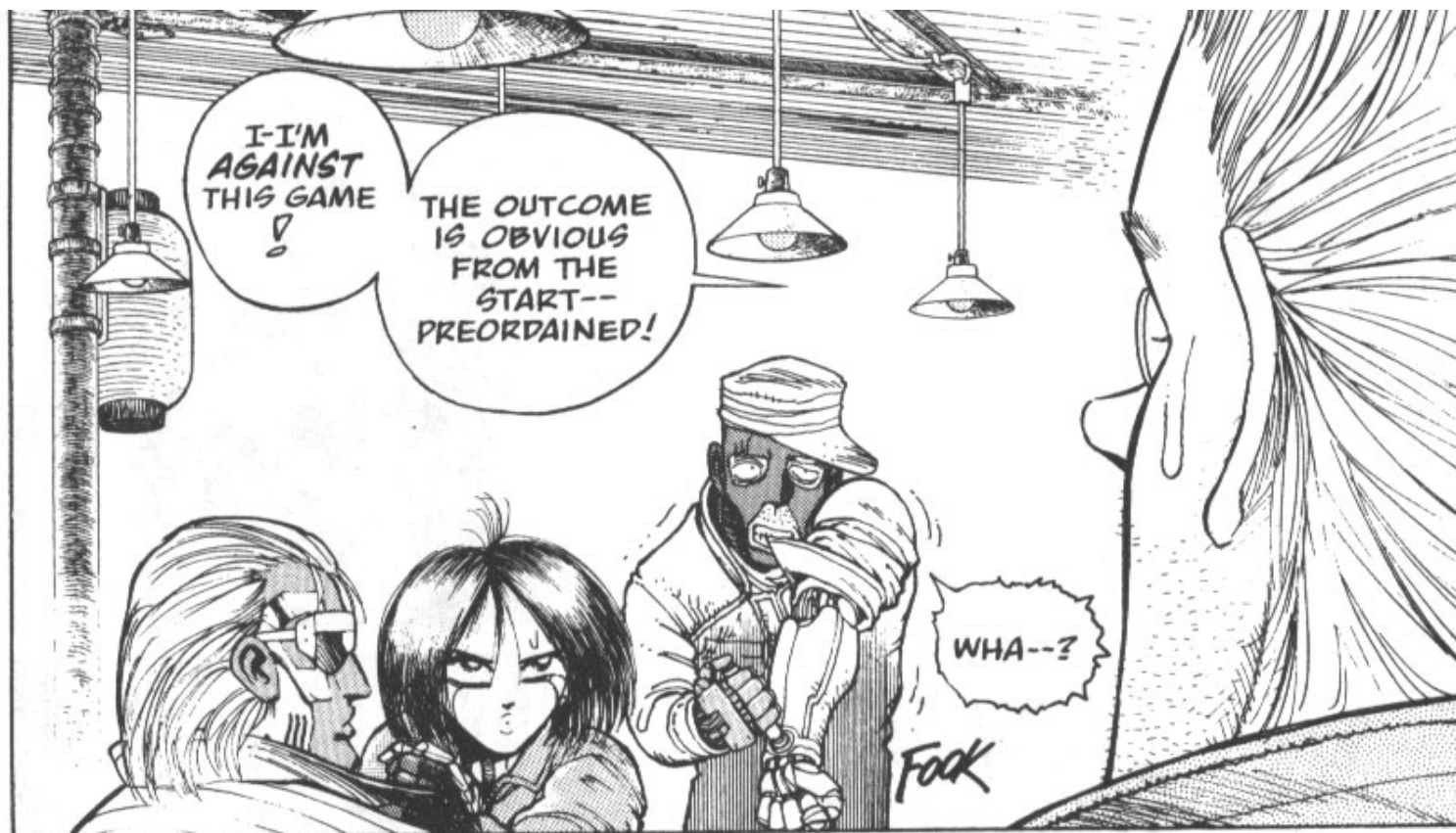
BE-  
GI--

UNGH  
UNH

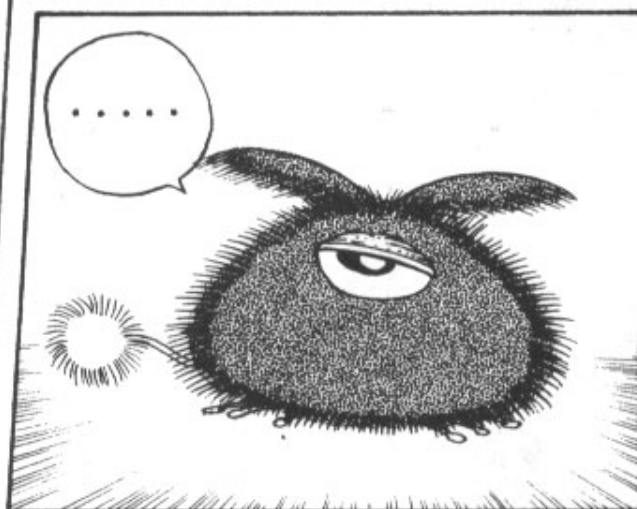
!?

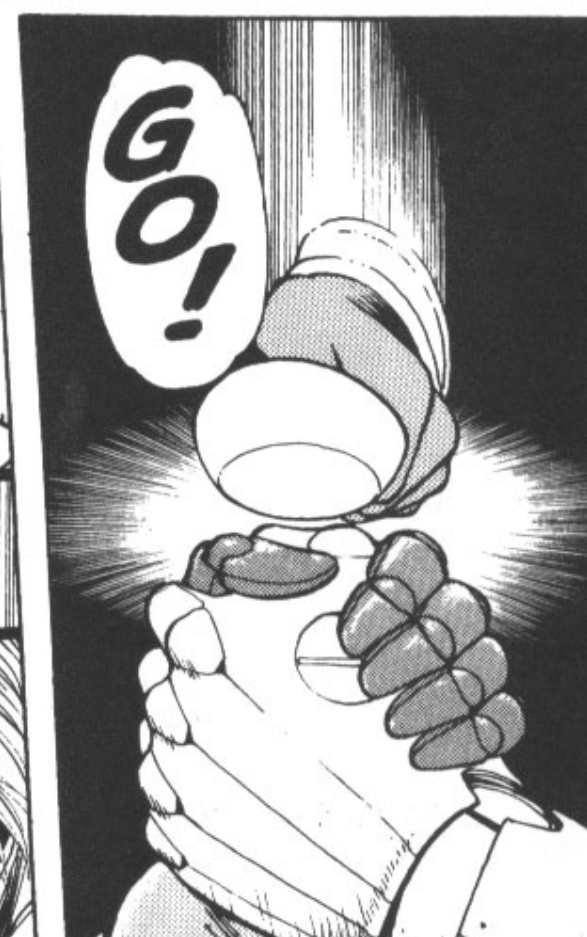
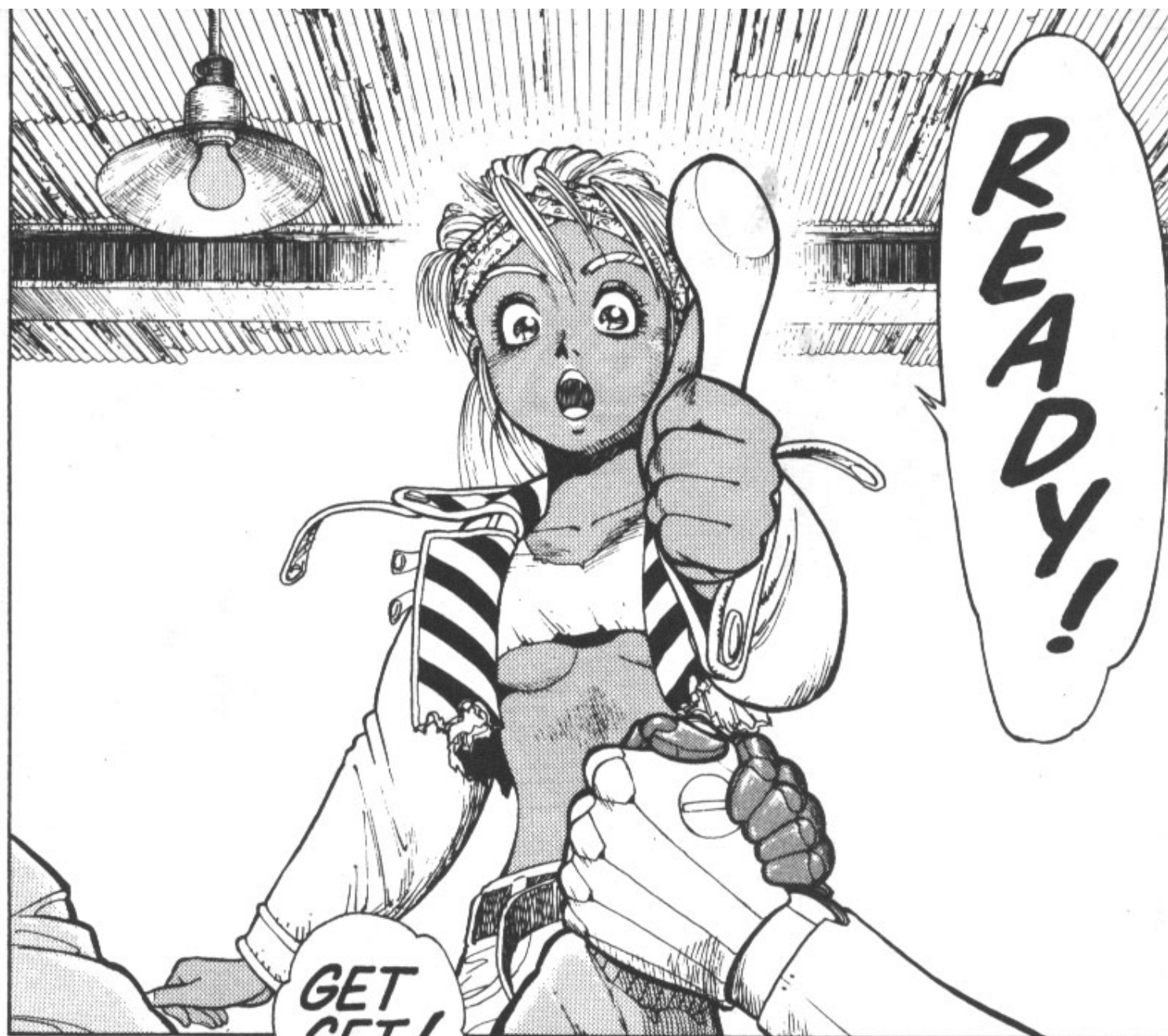










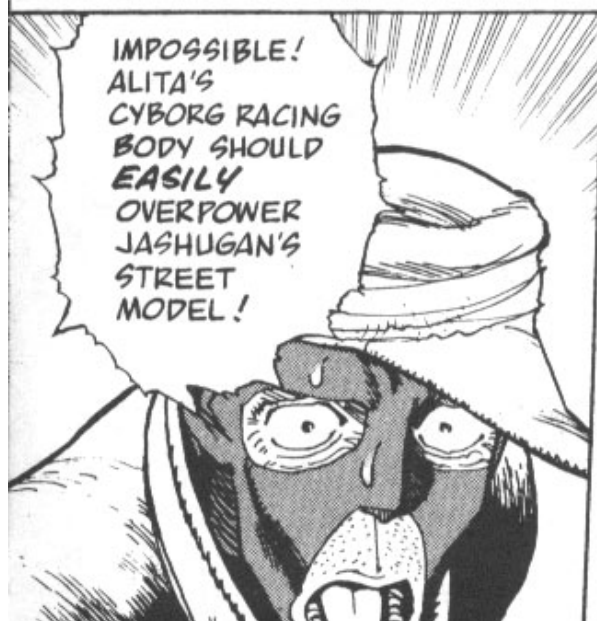






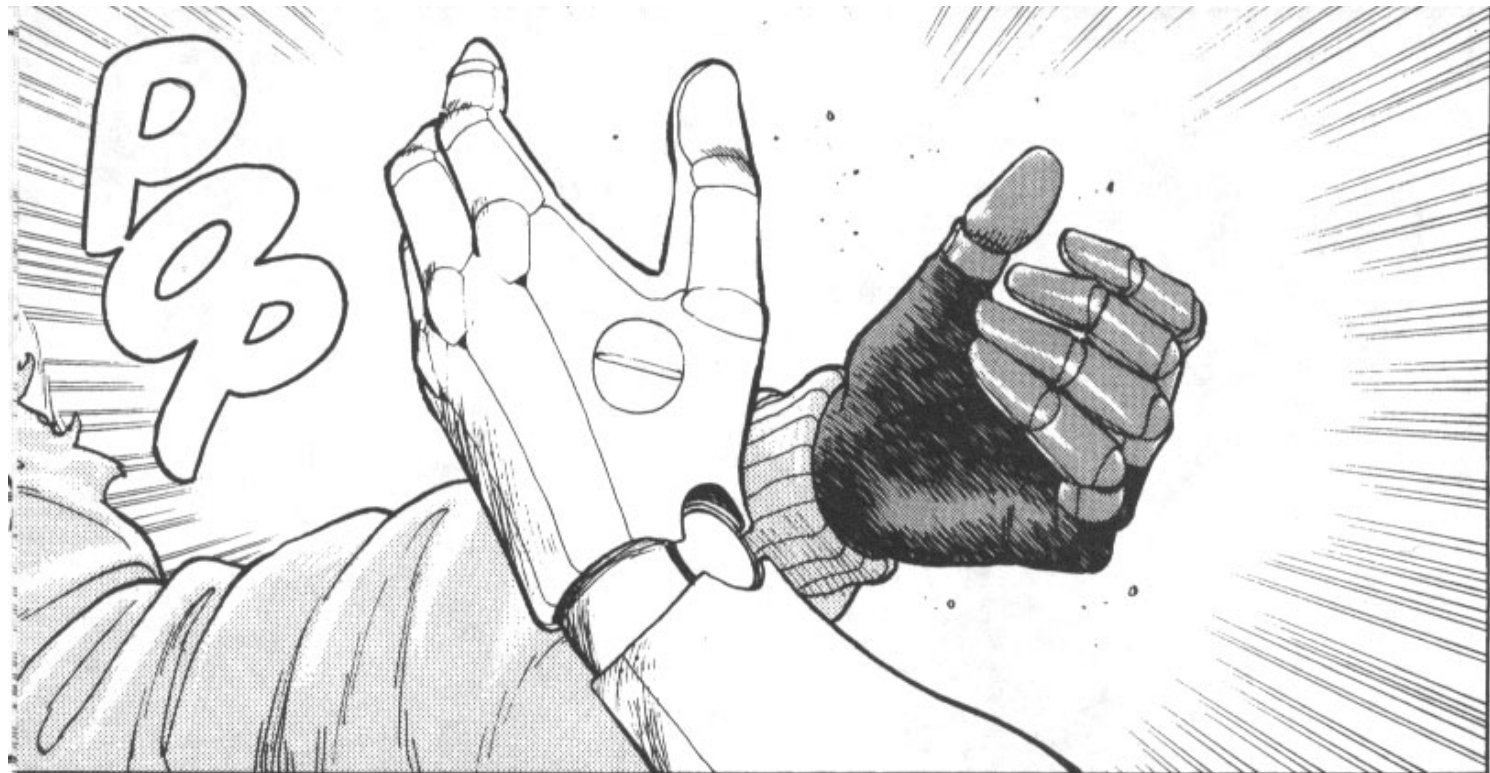
















MOTORBALL  
REGS SAY  
I CAN'T  
PLAY ONE  
ON ONE  
AGAINST A  
**SECOND  
LEAGUE  
PLAYER.**



DOESN'T  
MATTER  
WHO YOU GET,  
BUT PUT  
TOGETHER A  
**CHALLENGER  
TEAM-- AT  
LEAST FIVE  
MEMBERS!**

A TEAM OF  
FIVE...  
**CHALLENGERS...**



THAT'S RIGHT!  
WHEN YOUR  
TEAM'S  
TOGETHER,  
I'LL ACCEPT  
YOUR  
CHALLENGE!

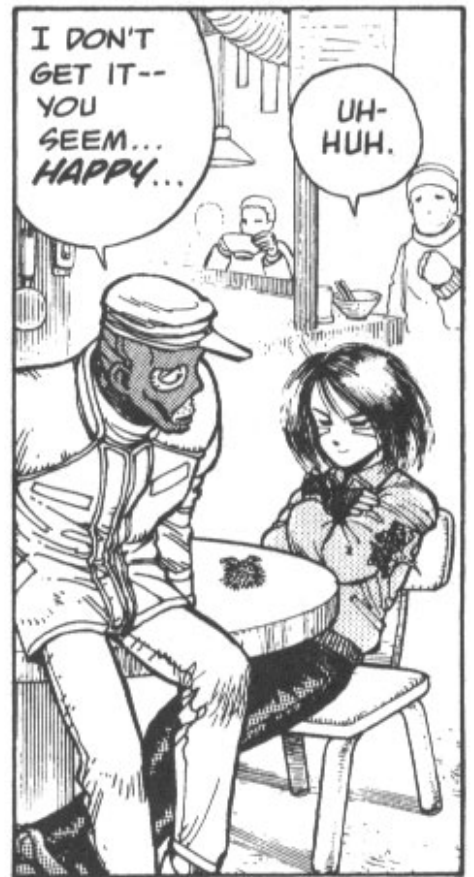
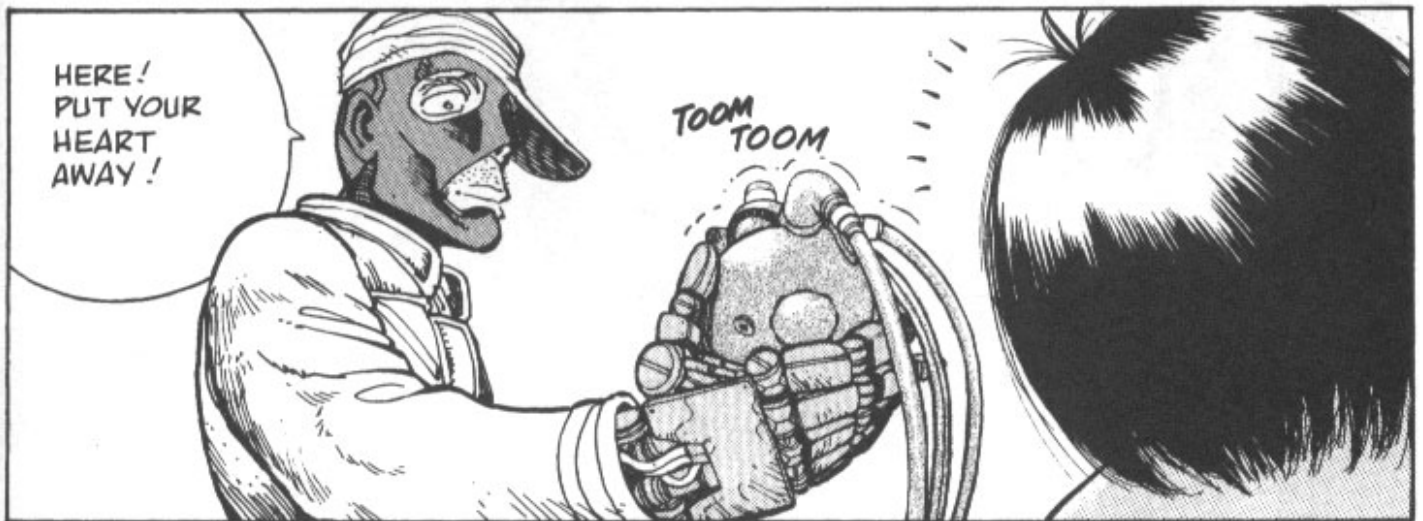
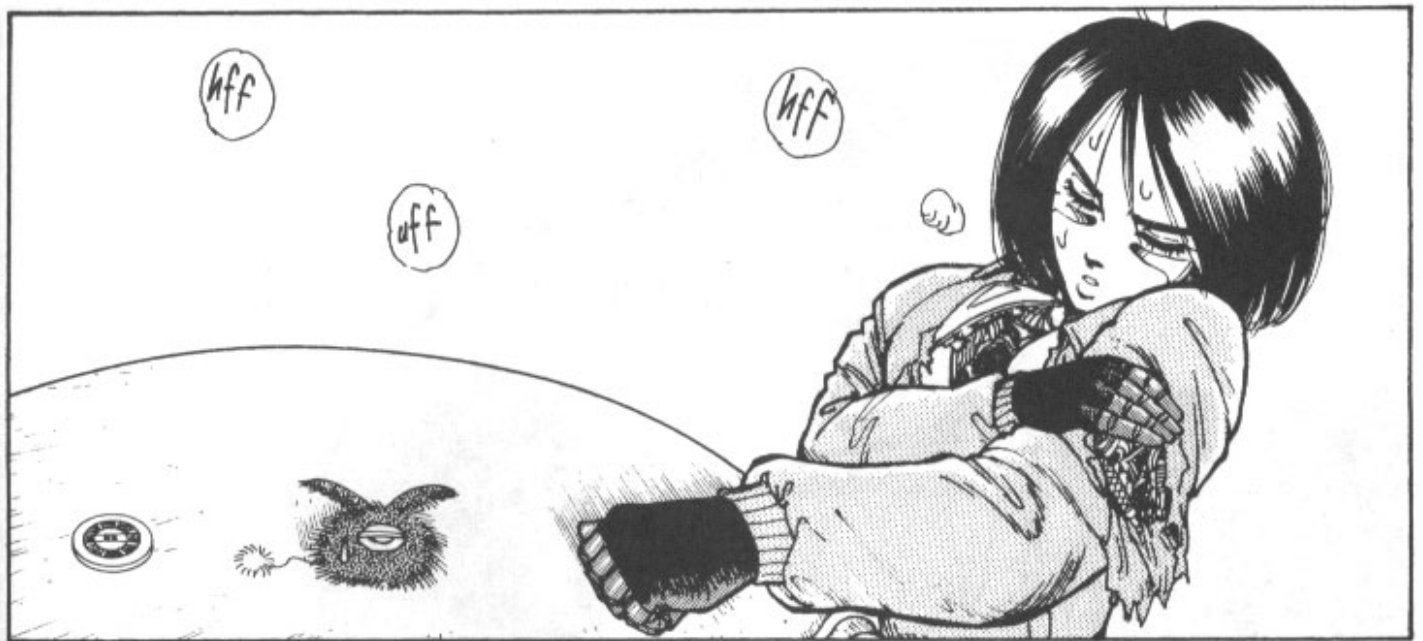


I'LL BE  
LOOKING  
FORWARD  
TO IT...  
**ALITA!**



WHY DID  
BIG BROTHER  
STOP!?  
SHUMIRA  
WANTED  
FLUFFY!

OH, I'LL BUY  
YOU ONE JUST  
LIKE IT...









BIG  
BROTHER'S  
HAND  
!?

JASHUGAN  
WHAT TH--!?

HEH! IT  
SEEMS THAT  
WOMAN--  
SHE SENT  
SOME SORT  
OF *VIBRATION*  
INTO MY  
ARM!



MY  
COMMAND  
OF "CHI"  
TOOK ALITA'S  
POWER  
DOWN TO  
EIGHTY  
PERCENT,  
BUT...

...BY THEN MY  
ARM WAS A  
GONER! HAD  
WE CONTINUED  
ARM  
WRESTLING, I  
WOULD HAVE  
BEEN THE  
ONE TO  
LOSE!



NOW THERE'S  
ONE MORE  
REASON  
TO LIVE  
A LITTLE  
LONGER!

BORGHESIA

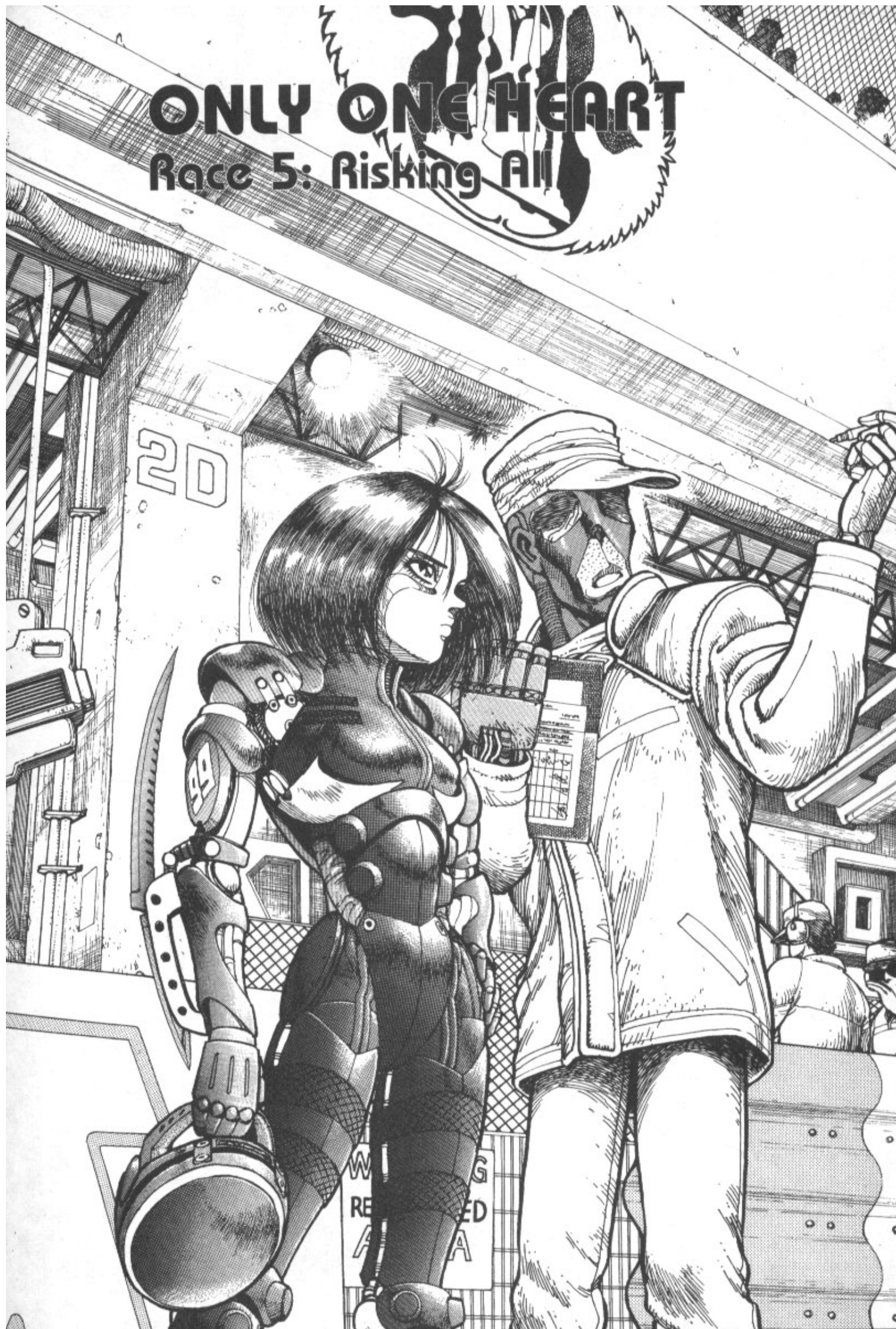
HEH  
HEH





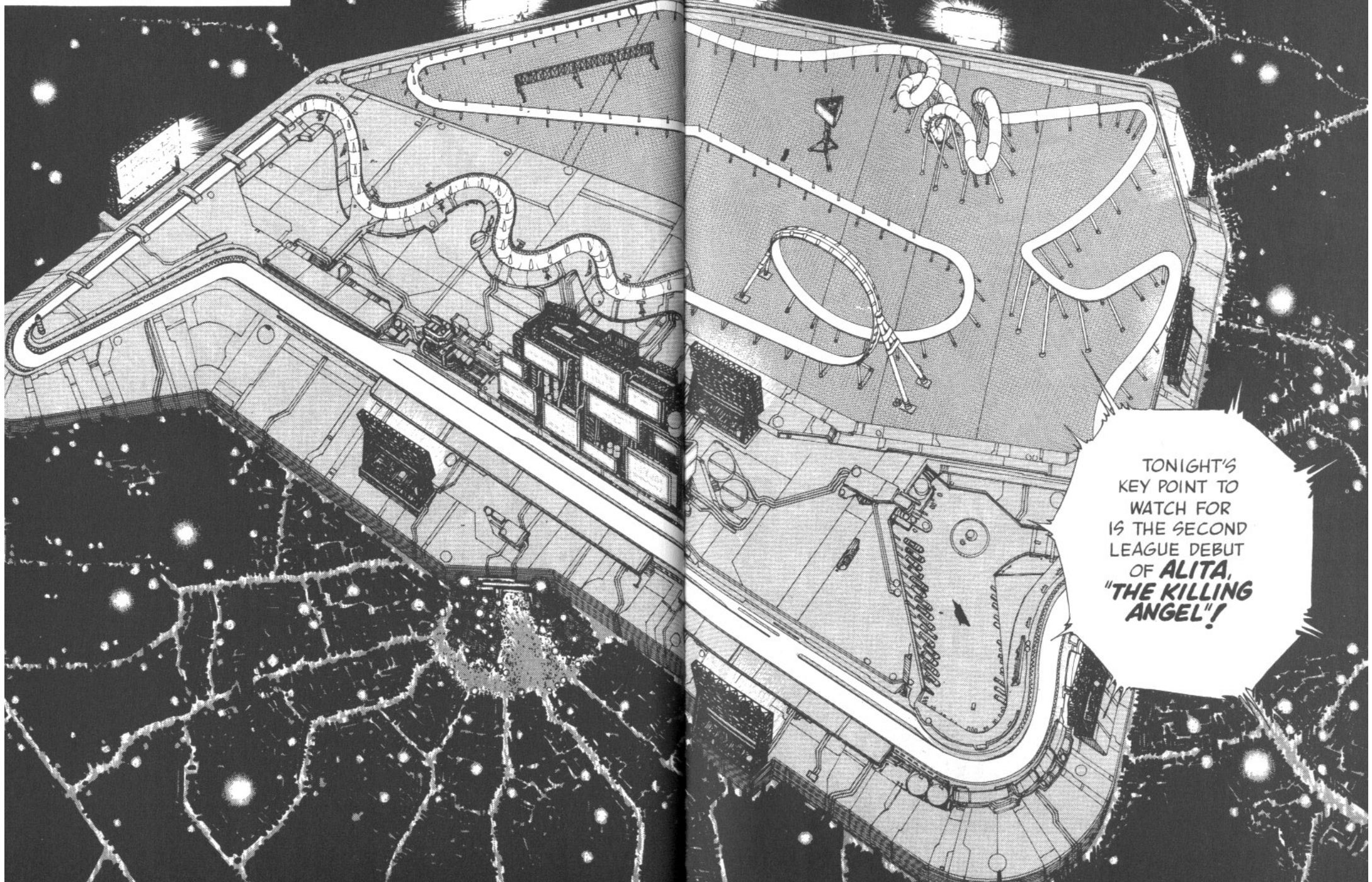
# ONLY ONE HEART

## Race 5: Risking All





SECOND LEAGUE  
REGULAR SEASON  
OPENING GAME



TONIGHT'S  
KEY POINT TO  
WATCH FOR  
IS THE SECOND  
LEAGUE DEBUT  
OF **ALITA**,  
"THE KILLING  
ANGEL"!

FANS AND  
MOTORBALL  
OFFICIALS  
ARE BUZZING  
OVER A  
RUMOR THAT  
JUST LAST  
WEEK...

...ALITA  
AND THE  
TOP LEAGUE'S  
EMPEROR  
JASHUGAN  
ARM-WRESTLED  
TO A  
STANDSTILL  
IN AN  
INFORMAL  
MATCH!

BLACK Kishiro Tile ANNIHILATOR KILL

THIS  
AMAZING  
FEAT GAVE  
ALITA THE  
OPPORTUNITY  
TO CHALLENGE  
THE CHAMP  
HIMSELF  
!

ALITA'S  
GARNERED  
A LOT OF  
ATTENTION  
DOWN IN  
THIRD LEAGUE  
PLAY, BUT  
FOR MOST  
FANS, SHE'S  
STILL  
SHROUDED IN  
MYSTERY!

HOW WELL  
WILL THE  
KILLING  
ANGEL  
FARE HERE  
IN THE  
SECOND  
LEAGUE!?

ON  
TOP  
OF  
THAT...



KIK KIK CHIK

... SPECULATION  
IS RAMPANT  
ABOUT WHO ALITA  
WILL CHOOSE  
TO JOIN HER  
FIVE-MAN  
CHALLENGE  
TEAM TO FACE  
JASHUGAN!

TLOK

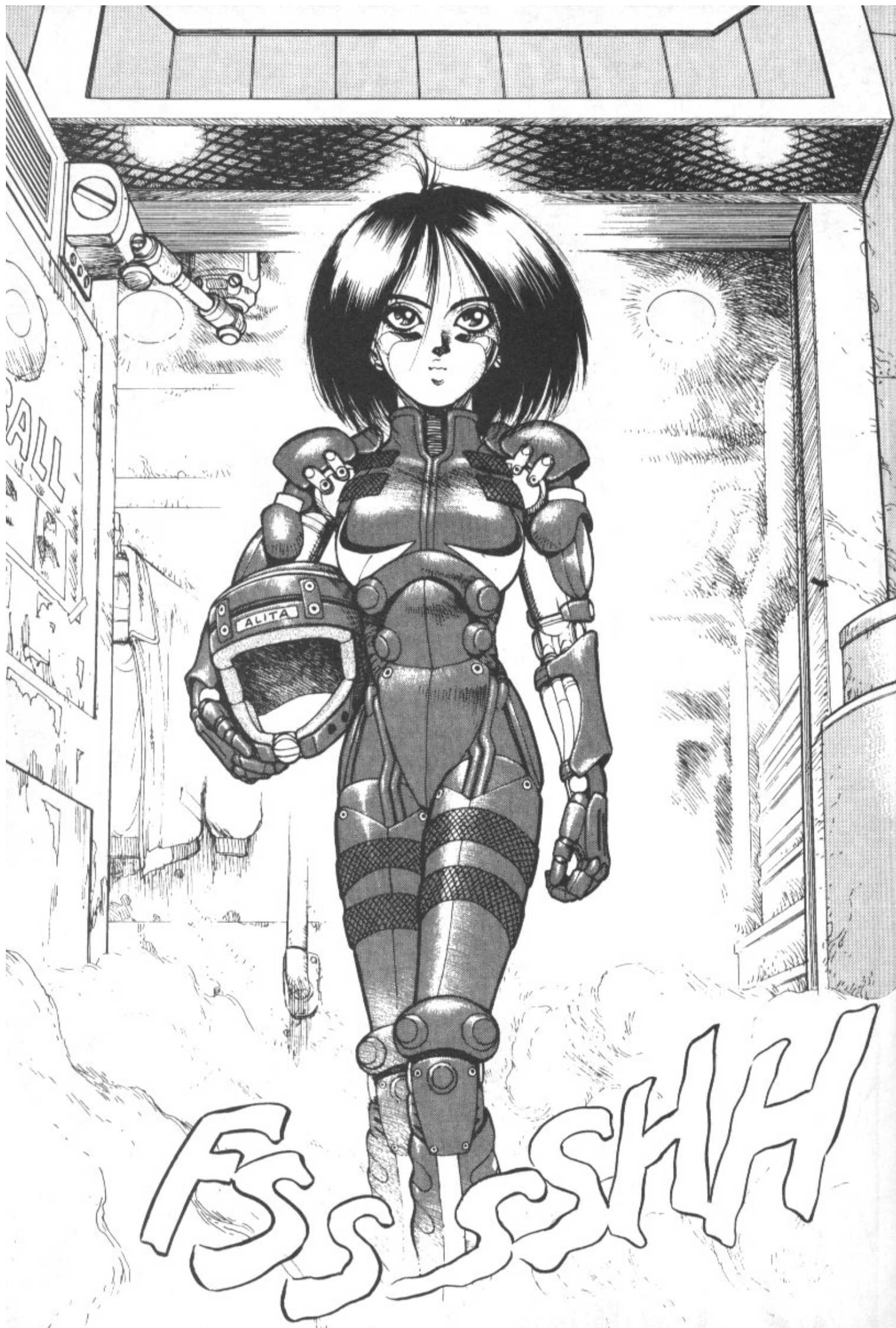
WHO  
WILL ALITA  
PICK AS  
ALLIES  
!?

GREE

FGSSHH

SLASH

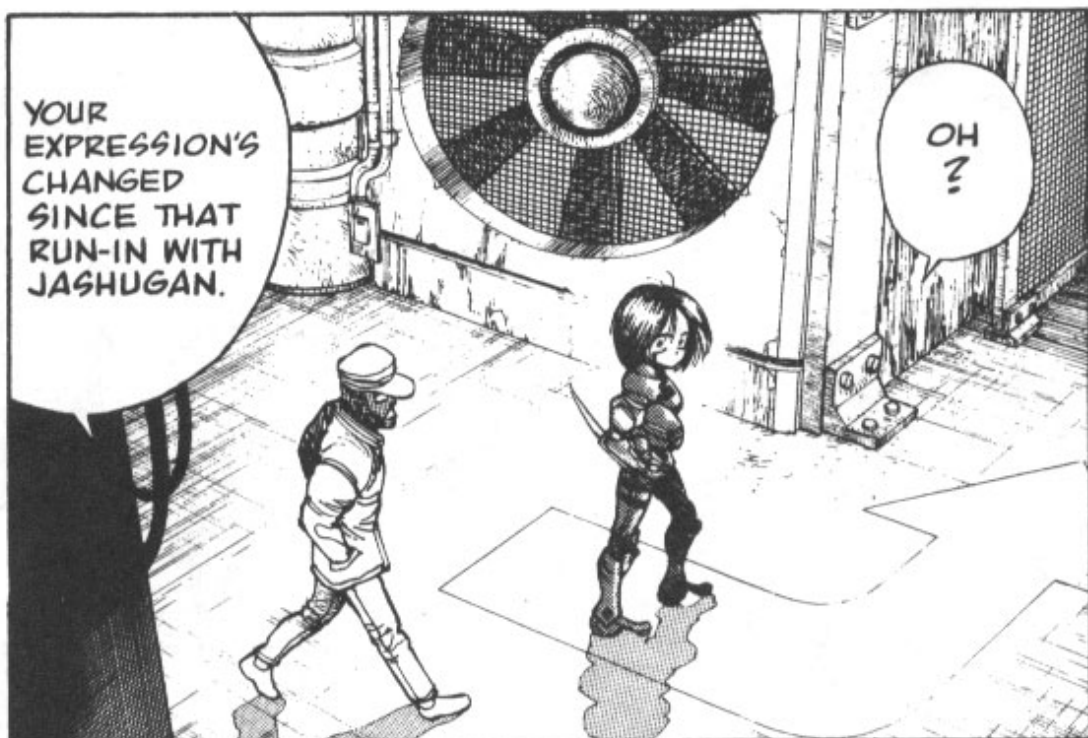
ALITA







HMM!



YOUR  
EXPRESSION'S  
CHANGED  
SINCE THAT  
RUN-IN WITH  
JASHUGAN.

OH  
?



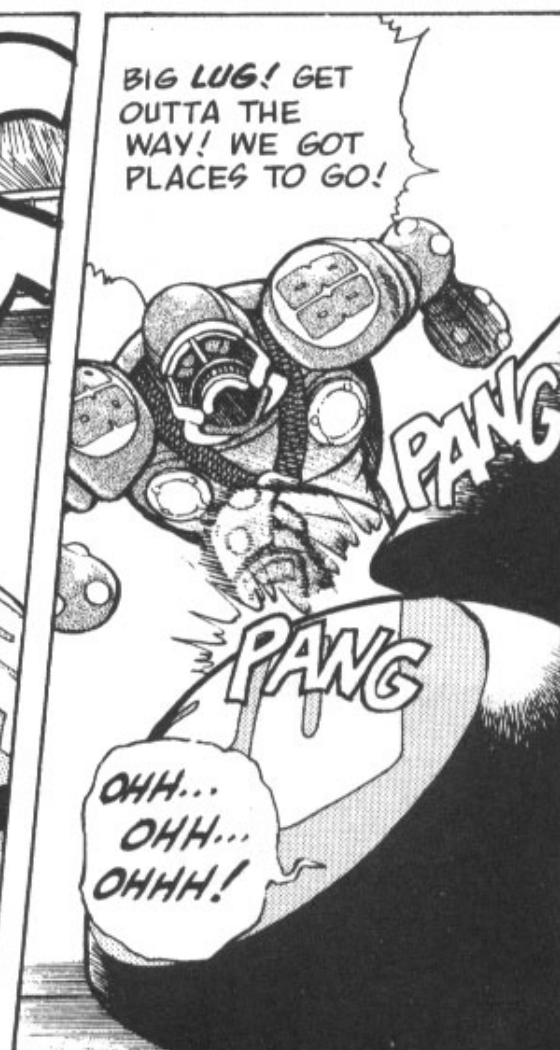
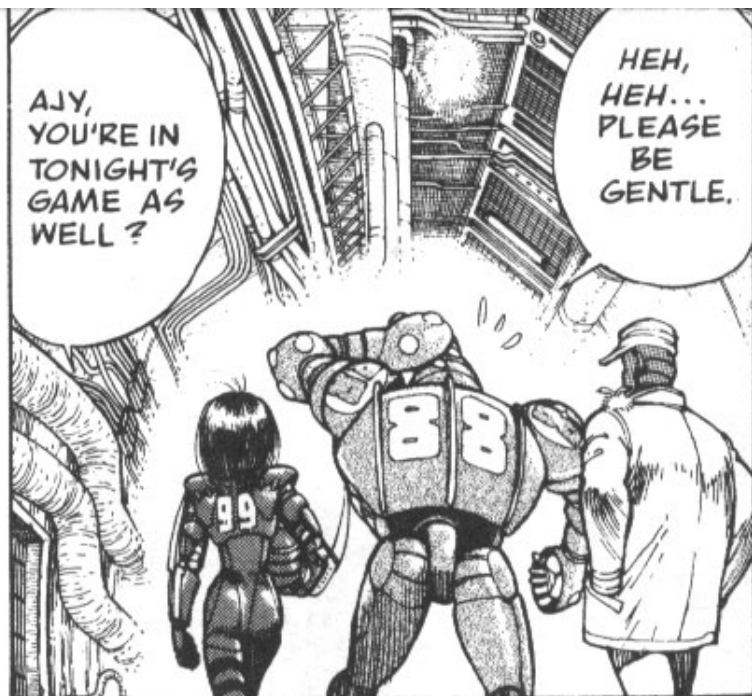
BEFORE,  
YOU  
SEEMED  
SORT OF  
RECKLESS--  
ALOOF...

NOW I HAVE  
A **PURPOSE**...  
ONE NAMED  
**JASHUGAN**.  
AND I  
UNDERSTAND  
WHAT WAS  
**MISSING**  
BEFORE...

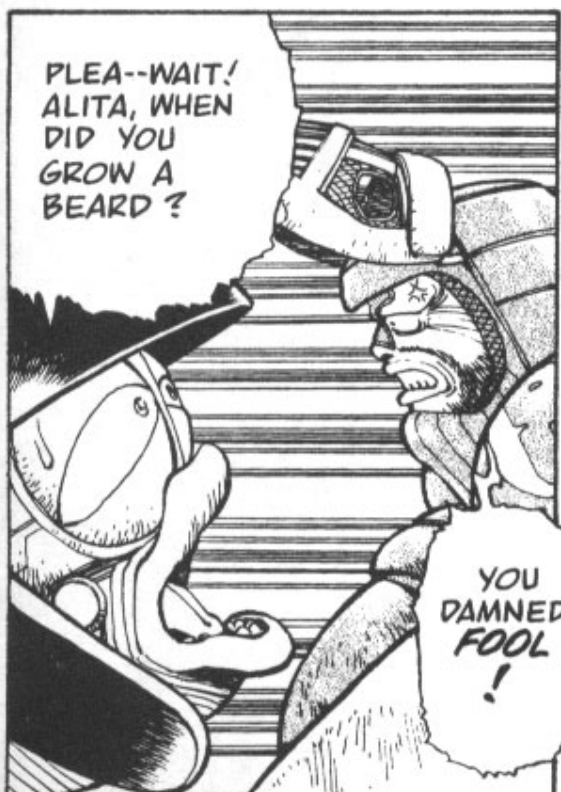
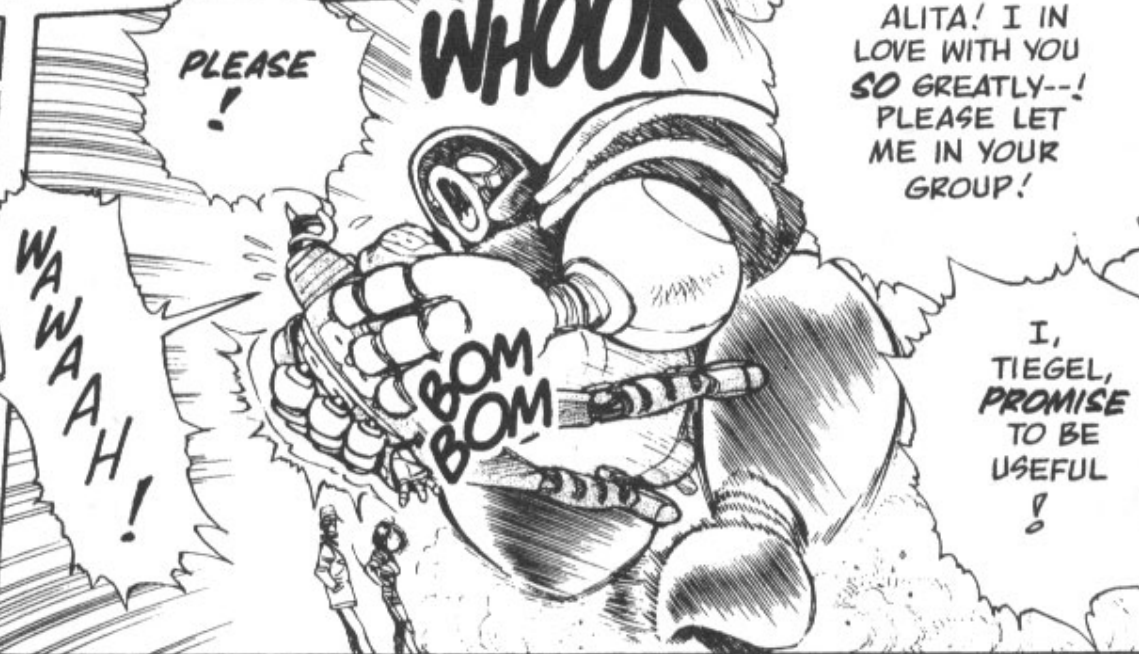


...A GOAL,  
A MISSION  
FOR MY  
LIFE! A  
PERSON HAS  
TO HAVE  
SOMETHING  
TO **STRIVE**  
FOR!

ALWAYS BEING ON  
THE DEFENSIVE--RUNNING  
AWAY--IT'LL JUST  
MAKE YOU **ROT**  
INSIDE! I CAN'T LIVE  
THAT WAY... AND  
WITH **JASHUGAN** TO  
GO UP AGAINST, I  
WON'T HAVE TO!











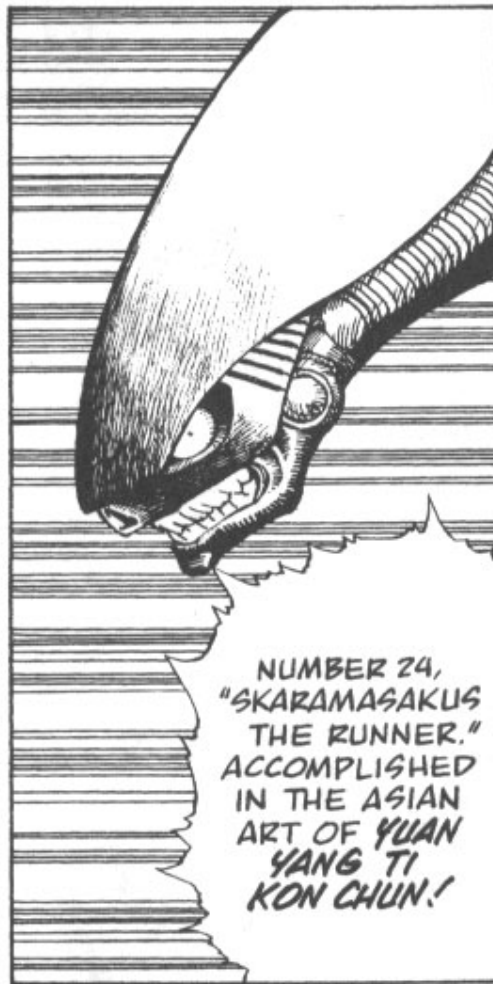


THESE ARE MY STUDENTS OF THE "ASIAN ARTS," EACH WITH A FIELD OF SPECIALTY! THEY ARE THE *FUTURE* OF THE SECOND LEAGUE'S COMBAT-ORIENTED PLAYERS!

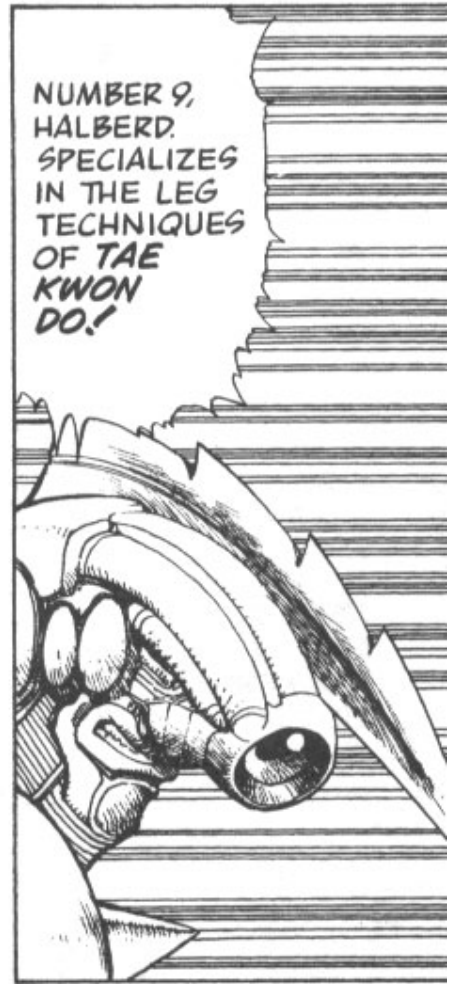
LET ME INTRODUCE THEM!



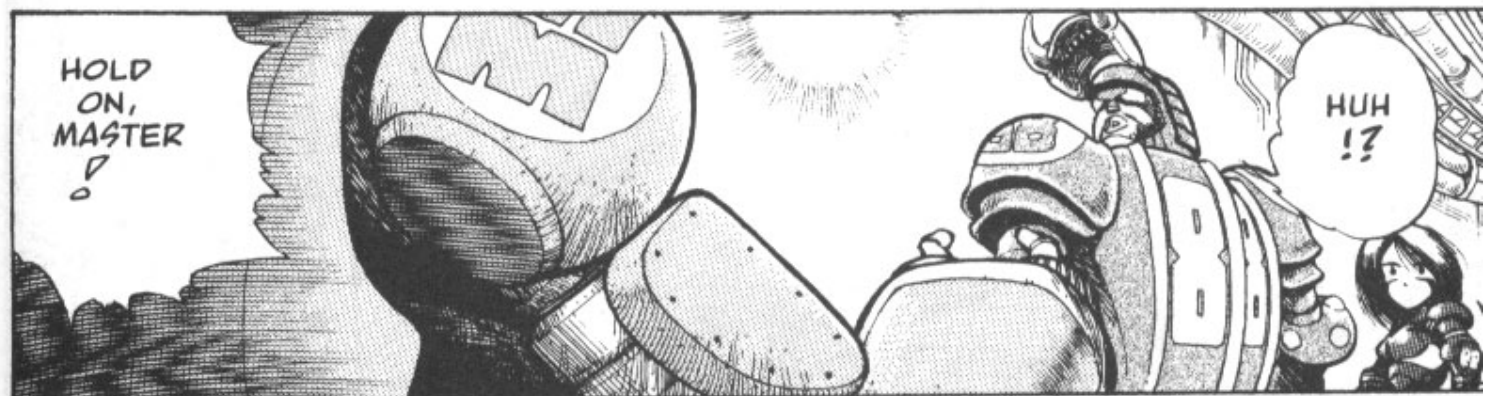
NUMBER 33, "PILE-DRIVER BARGERALD." WIELDER OF THE ASIAN ART *MUE KATCHUAH!*



NUMBER 24, "SKARAMASAKUS THE RUNNER." ACCOMPLISHED IN THE ASIAN ART OF *YUAN YANG TI KON CHUN!*



NUMBER 9, HALBERD. SPECIALIZES IN THE LEG TECHNIQUES OF *TAE KWON DO!*

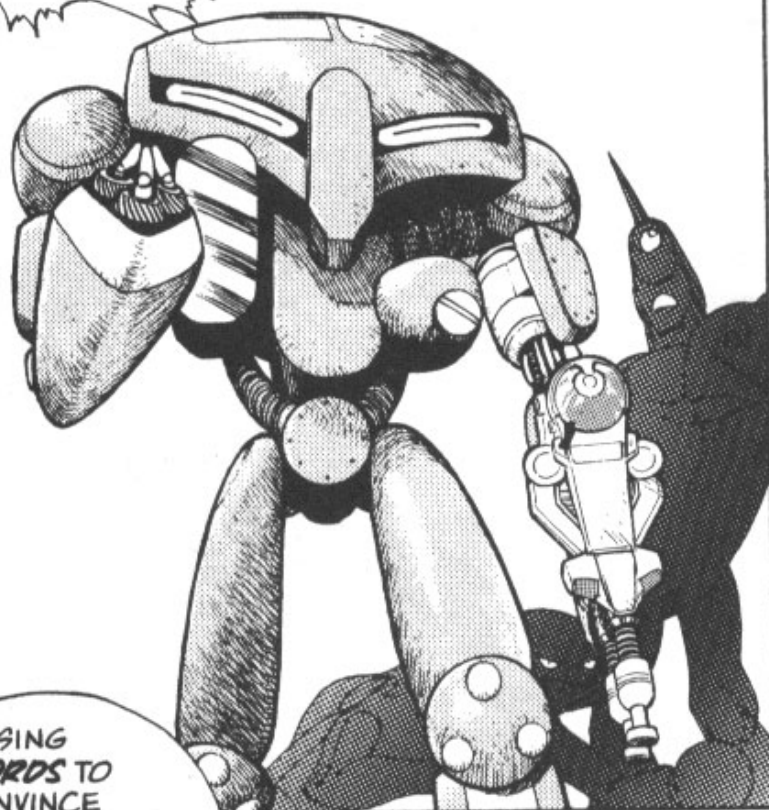


HOLD ON, MASTER!

HUH !?

JUST BECAUSE  
WE GET THE  
CHANCE TO  
TAKE ON THE  
CHAMP, WHY DO  
YOU HAVE TO  
BOW DOWN TO  
THIS LITTLE  
GIRL!?

THAT'S  
RIGHT  
!



USING  
WORDS TO  
CONVINCE  
SOMEONE  
ALWAYS TAKES  
TOO LONG--  
AND MY  
TEMPER IS  
ALREADY  
RUNNING  
SHORT!

I'LL NOT  
ALLOW YOU  
TO SPEAK  
THAT WAY  
ABOUT  
SISTER  
ALITA!



Spak.

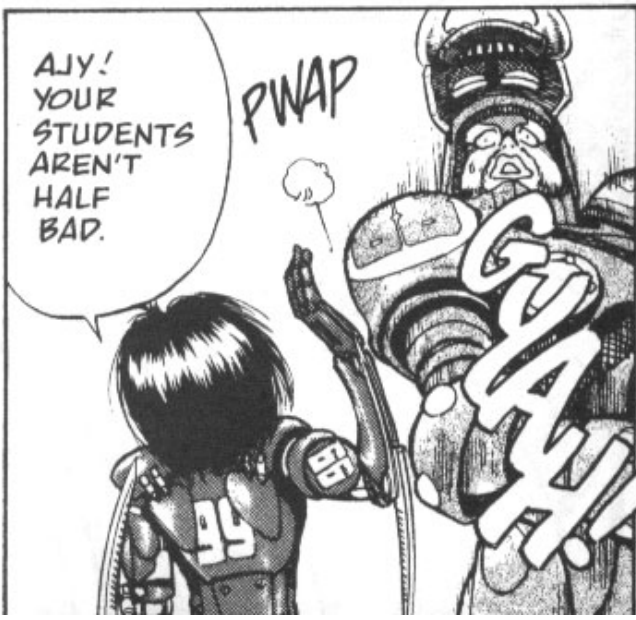
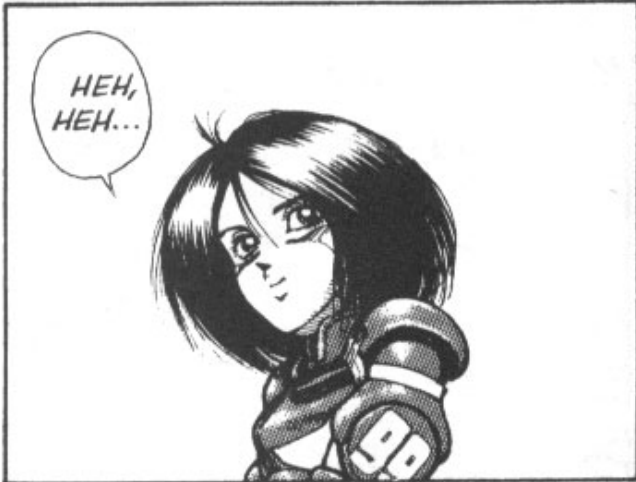
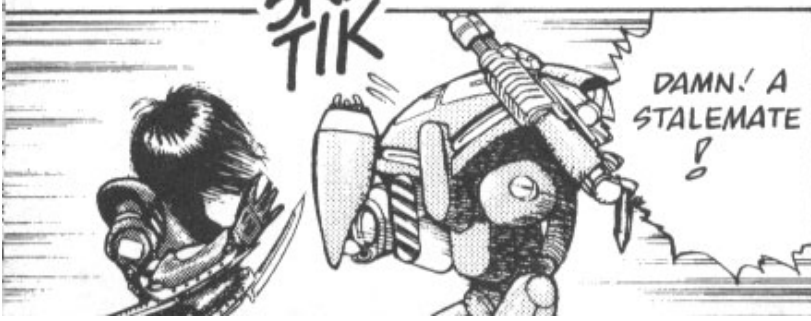
I'LL JUST  
HAVE TO  
**SHOW**  
YOU!  
COME ON,  
TOUGH  
GUY!



SK  
R  
E  
E  
C  
H  
A









THEY BOTH STOPPED--  
AND IT LOOKED LIKE  
A DRAW--BUT IF THIS  
HAD BEEN A REAL  
FIGHT, ALITA'S BLADE  
WOULD HAVE  
SEVERED BARGE'S  
LIFE-SUPPORT  
SYSTEM!

DID SHE  
FAKE A DRAW  
SO THAT  
BARGERALD  
AND I COULD  
SAVE FACE...?



THAT  
SHARPENING  
SOUND...  
COULD  
IT BE!?





THE  
GAME  
IS  
ABOUT  
TO  
BEGIN.

WHAT'S  
A BUNCH  
OF  
**GRUNTS**  
LIKE *YOU*  
DISCUSSING,  
EH?

**SHEENG**

**TING**



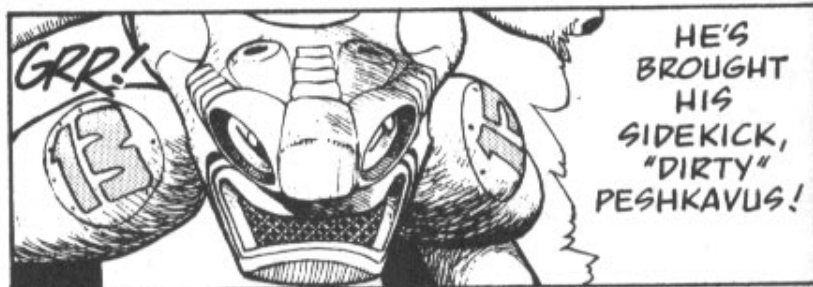
SO  
WHO  
IS  
**THIS**?

Y-YOU  
DON'T  
KNOW  
!?



THAT'S  
"CALIGULA"  
ARMBLESSED!  
HE'S THE  
**CRUELEST**  
PLAYER  
EVER TO  
BECOME  
CHAMP OF  
THE SECOND  
LEAGUE!

**SHEENG**



HE'S  
BROUGHT  
HIS  
SIDEKICK,  
"DIRTY"  
PESHKAVUS!

**GRR!**



SO YOU'RE THE  
**INFAMOUS**  
**ALITA!** THE  
FANS MAY FIND  
IT UNFORTUNATE  
THAT YOUR  
CHALLENGE TO  
JASHUGAN  
WILL **NOT** BE  
COMING TO  
PASS...

...BECAUSE  
TONIGHT YOUR  
**BRAIN** WILL BE  
**FLOOR WAX!**  
I'M GOING TO  
POLISH THE  
WHOLE **ARENA**  
WITH YOUR  
**HEAD!**

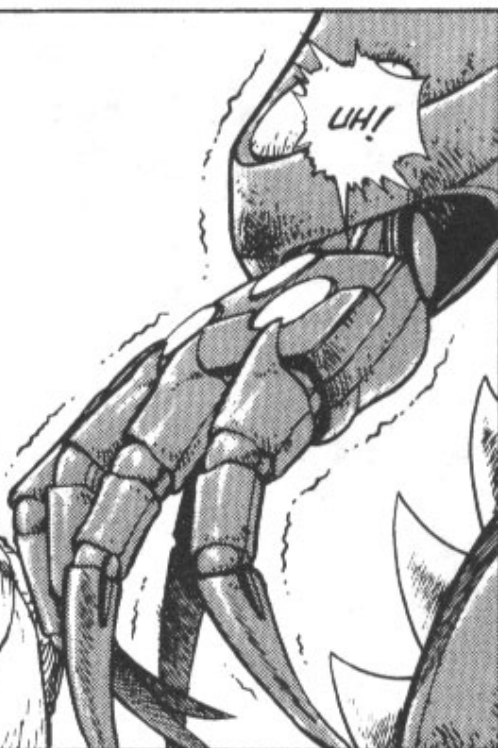


OH, YEAH... I FORGOT THAT THE SECOND LEAGUE HAD A CHAMPION OF ITS OWN...



IF YOU TWO WANT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE CHALLENGE TEAM, STOP ACTING SO TOUGH AND ASK...

I'LL THINK ABOUT IT.



AAARGH!

HOW DARE SHE HUMILIATE ME !?



I'LL KILL HER! SHE'S GOING TO DIE!

STOMP

GAAA!

DEATH, DEATH, DEATH!



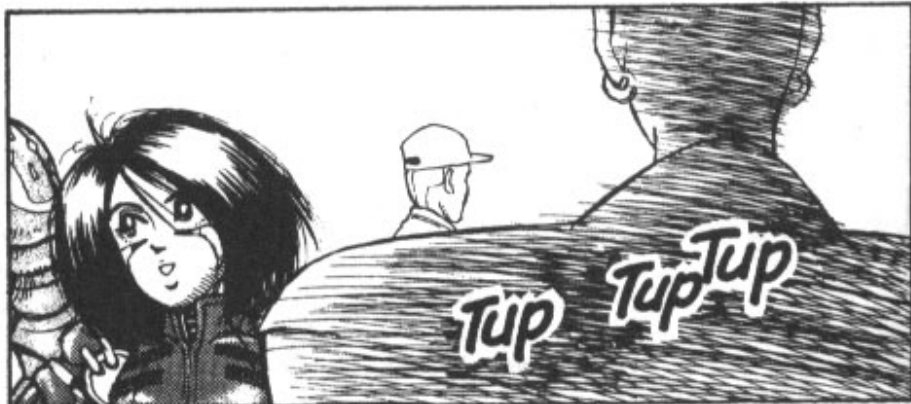
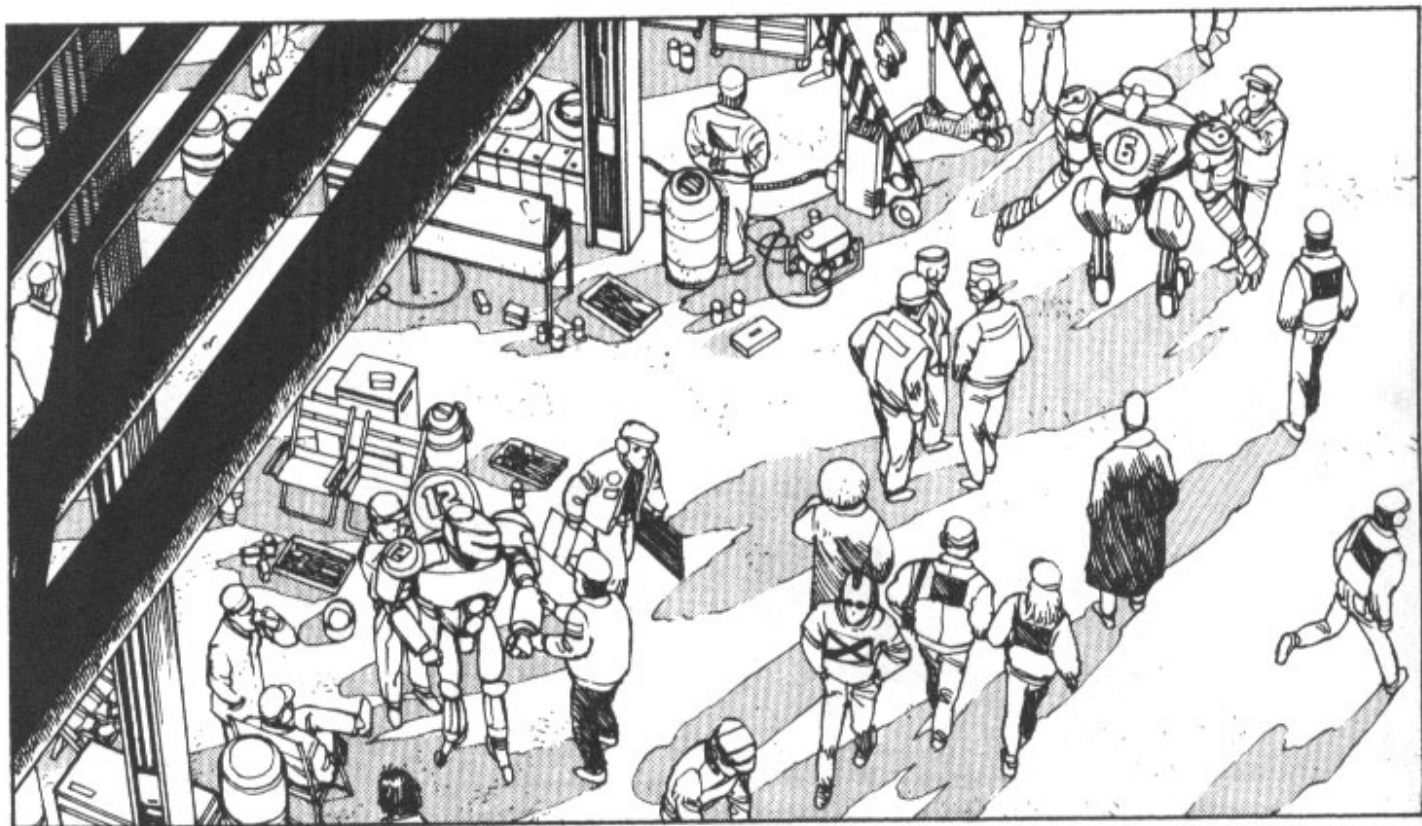
WOMP WOMP

THAT'S SOME TANTRUM! SERVES HIM RIGHT...

SISTER, YOU REALLY KNOW HOW TO PROVOKE PEOPLE, DON'T YOU?

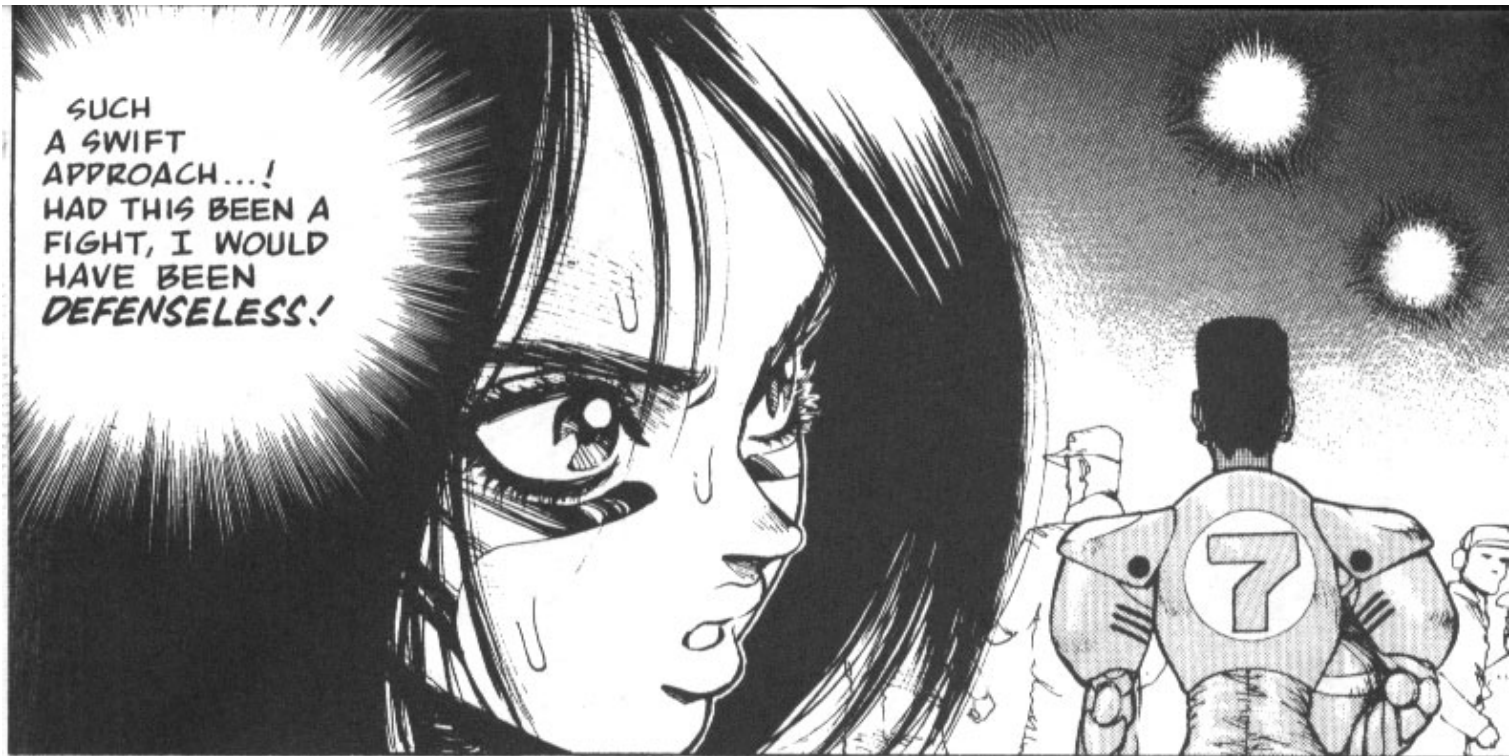


ALL I DO IS SPEAK MY MIND...





SUCH  
A SWIFT  
APPROACH...!  
HAD THIS BEEN A  
FIGHT, I WOULD  
HAVE BEEN  
DEFENSELESS!



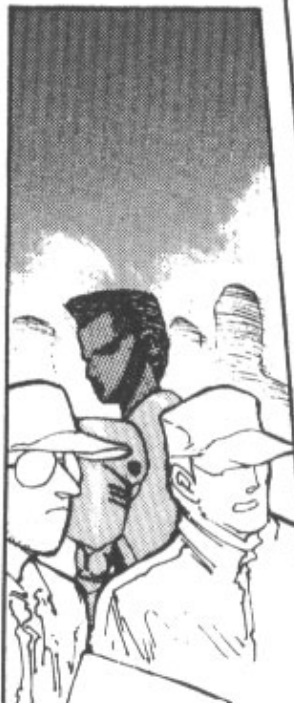
SHOOOSH

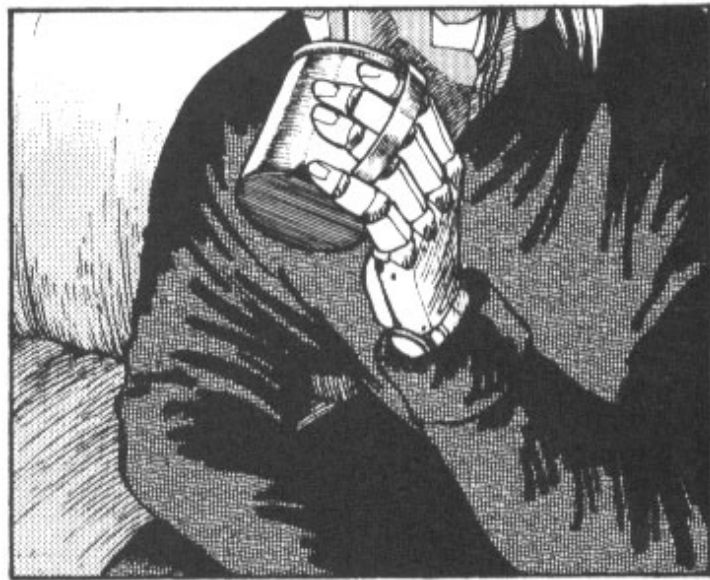
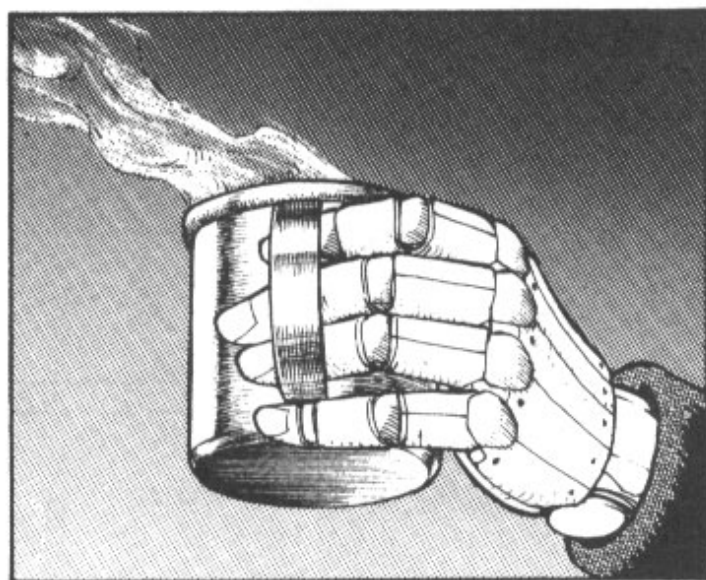
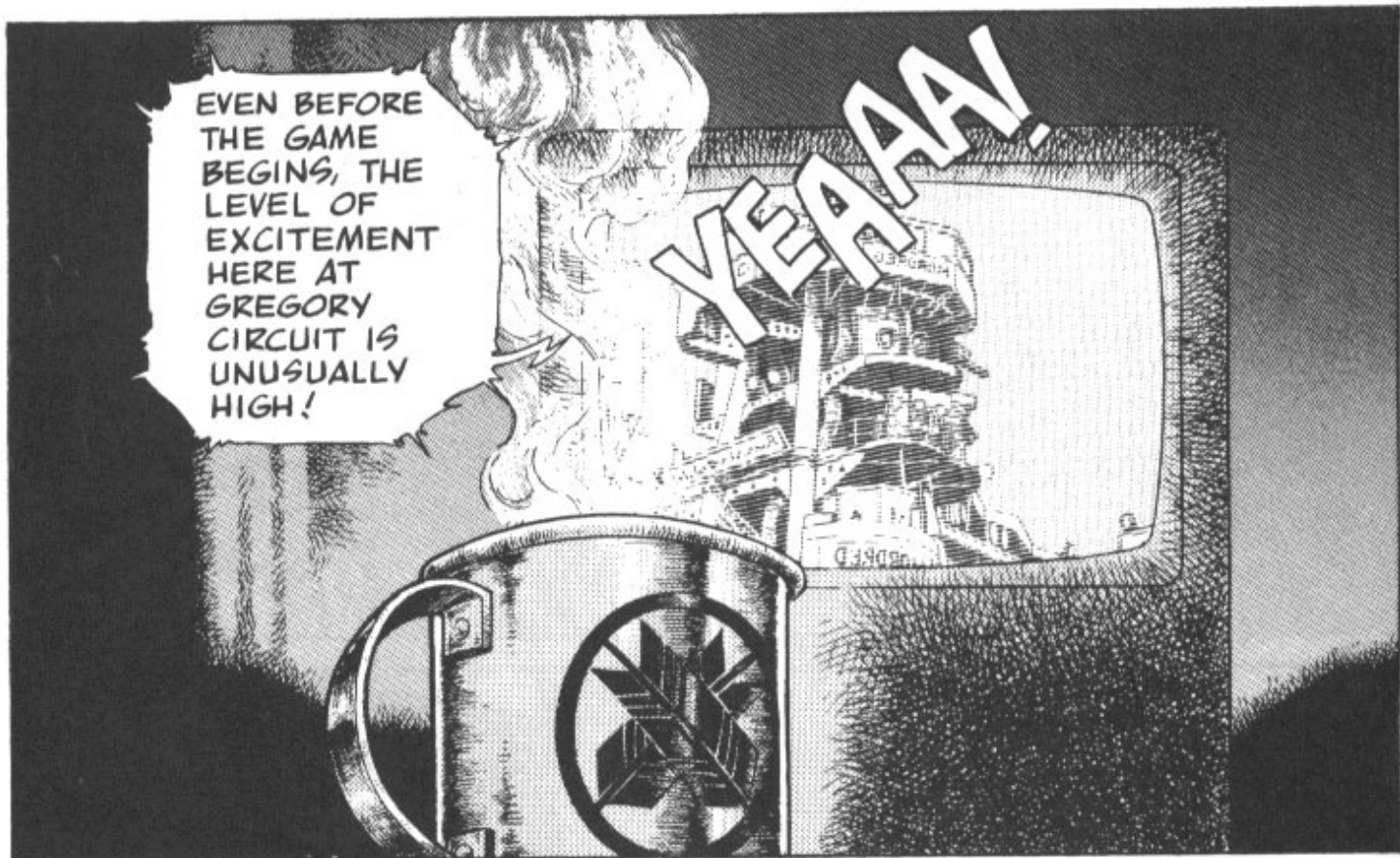


A WOMAN...

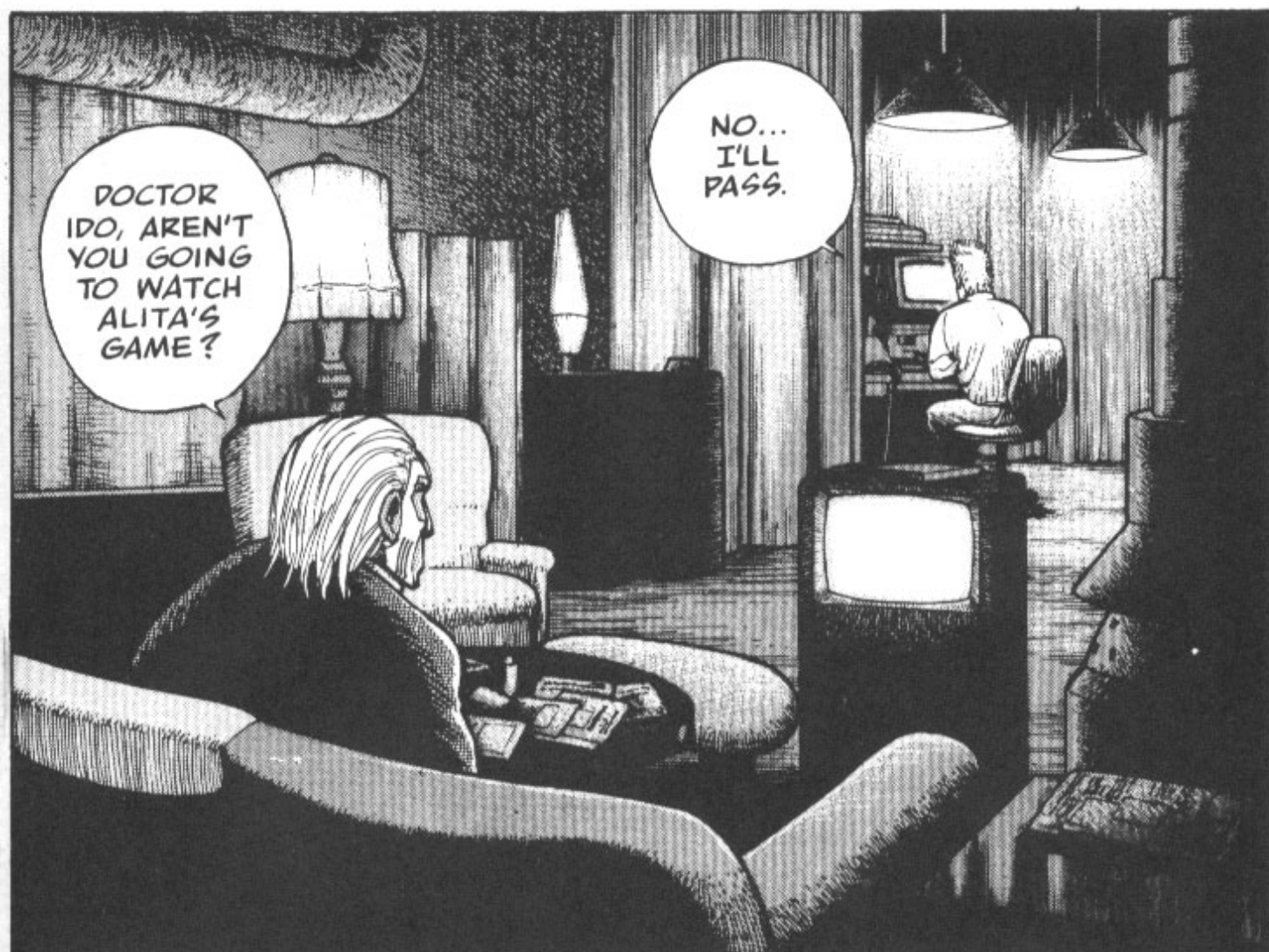
AJY, THIS  
IS REALLY  
EXCITING...!

NUMBER 7,  
"CRIMSON  
WIND" ZAFAL  
TAKIÉ.  
HER ONLY  
WEAPON...HER  
INCREDIBLE  
SPEED AND  
TECHNIQUE.









DOCTOR  
IDO, AREN'T  
YOU GOING  
TO WATCH  
ALITA'S  
GAME?

NO...  
I'LL  
PASS.



.....  
WHY DO  
YOU HIDE  
IT?



UH...  
HIDE  
WHAT  
?



DON'T PLAY  
**INNOCENT**  
WITH ME!  
YOU WERE  
**INVOLVED**  
WITH THIS  
ALITA!

WHAT  
IS IT  
THAT  
YOU'RE  
AFTER  
!?

To be continued in **BATTLE ANGEL ALITA: ANGEL OF VICTORY** graphic novel!

